WRAP STARS: These four winter coats can warm up any fall outfit | **Inside**

express

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Weekend

LOIS RAIMONDO/TWP

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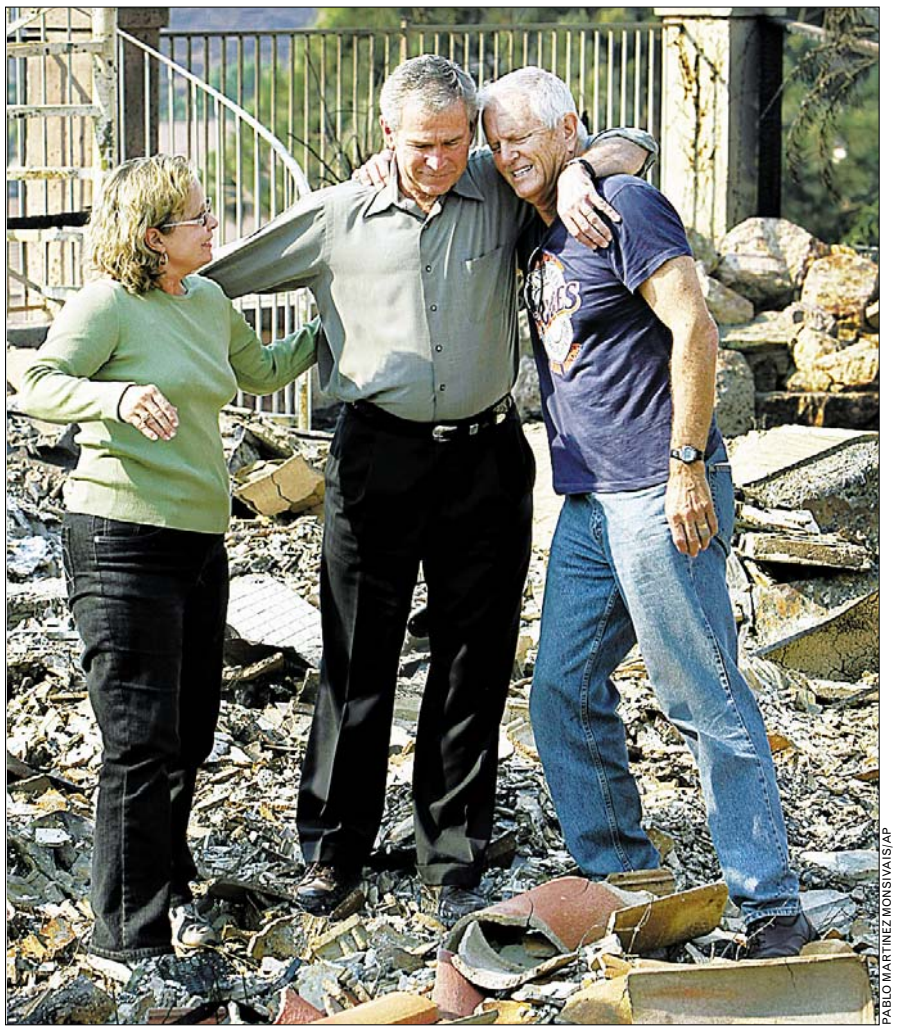
ENTERTAINMENT

Duller Than Fiction: *Steve Carell* stars in the lackluster 'Dan in Real Life.' Plus, a risqué remake of 'Sleuth.'

>> 20-30



PABLO MARTINEZ MONSIVAIS/AP

Bush Tours Wildfires' Aftermath

REASSURANCE: President Bush walks with Kendra Jeffcoate and her husband, Jay Jeffcoate, through the remains of their home in San Diego on Thursday. On a tour of the devastation caused by five days of unrelenting wildfires, Bush reassured Southern Californians: "We're not going to forget you in Washington, D.C." ✣ **Not over:** Fires continue despite better weather | **Page 3**

Iran Faces New U.S. Sanctions

Unprecedented measures step up pressure over nukes

WASHINGTON | The United States announced harsh new penalties on the Iranian military and state-owned banking systems Thursday, raising pressure on the world financial system to cut ties with a regime the West accuses of bankrolling terrorism and seeking a nuclear bomb.

The U.S. sanctions on elements of Iran's vast armed forces and its largest bank are the most sweeping since 1979, when the takeover of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran ruptured diplomatic, business and military ties.

The sanctions are the first of their type imposed by the United States specifically against the armed forces of another government. They are part of the Bush administration's two-track approach to its chief adversary in the Mideast that offsets diplomatic overtures with sanctions, bellicose rhetoric and the implicit threat of military action.

U.S. officials insisted that the new moves do not hasten war and that the U.S. remains committed to finding a way to talk Iran out of its nuclear program. The sanctions will cut off more than 20 Iranian entities, including individuals and companies owned or controlled by the powerful Revolutionary Guard Corps, from the American financial system. (AP)

pollcenter HAVE STORIES ABOUT VIRULENT STAPH INFECTIONS CAUSED YOU TO CHANGE YOUR HABITS? A YES B NO

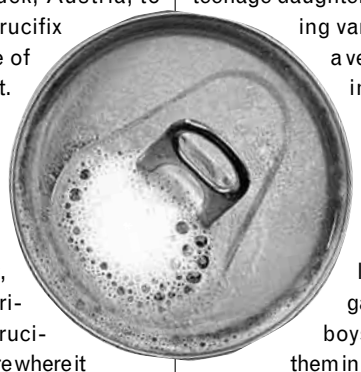
FRIDAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY
64 | 59	73 | 51	67 | 46

TODAY: A cool, cloudy day with periods of rain, sometimes heavy | 42

eyeOpeners

NON-PORN

Man Has No Idea How to Pick Battles

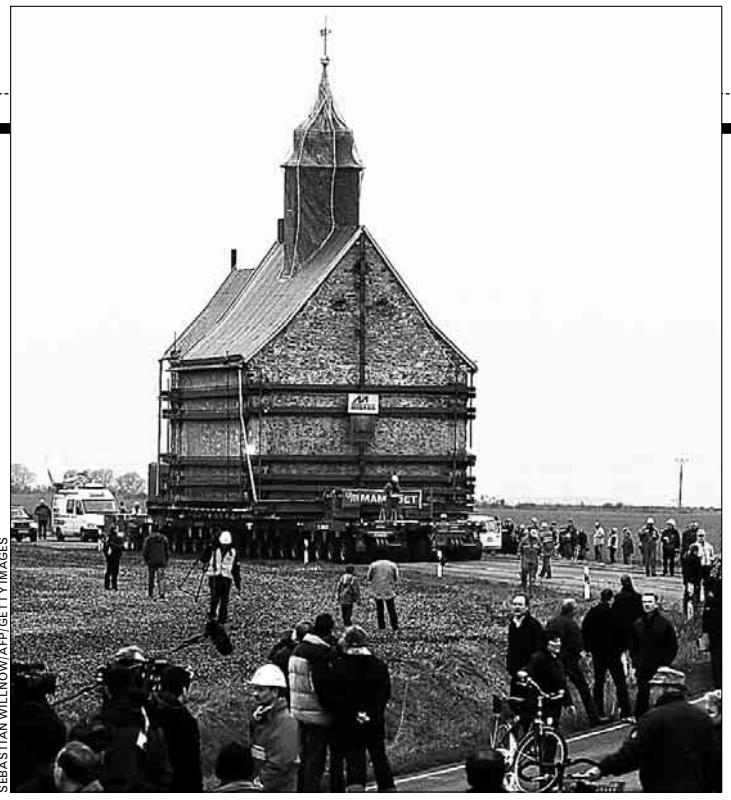


An anti-pornography activist wants officials in Innsbruck, Austria, to take down a large crucifix bearing a sculpture of a naked Jesus Christ. Martin Humer, who gained notoriety last year after he painted part of a statue of a nude Mozart and stuck feathers on it, is pressuring authorities to remove the crucifix from a public square where it has been displayed for 20 years. Humer, an 82-year-old former photographer, said he and about 100 supporters were organizing a protest for Friday. Mayor Hilde Zach said she would refuse to remove the crucifix, insisting it is in no way pornographic. (AP)

TEENAGERS

Mom Sanctioned for Being 'Coolest Ever'

An Omaha, Neb., woman let her teenage daughter lean out of a moving van to take beer from a vehicle that was driving alongside on a highway, authorities said Wednesday. Terry Kisling, 47, was driving high school cheerleaders to a football game when a group of boys pulled up next to them in an SUV, high school Principal John Skretta said. "To say that we were shocked and taken aback would be an understatement," said Skretta. Kisling was charged with procuring alcohol for minors, contributing to the delinquency of minors and reckless driving. (AP)



SEBASTIAN WILLNOW/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

TREKS

Holy Roller

Moving a 660-ton, 750-year-old church 7.5 miles isn't as simple as chucking some wheels under it and giving it a good hard kick. Once transferred to a rolling platform, the Emmaus church of Heuersdorf, Germany, began its laborious crawl to a neighboring village. It's expected to arrive Wednesday. The 59 residents of the town, who lost a legal battle against a mining company, must also leave Heuersdorf, which sits atop extensive deposits of coal. (AP)

TINY, OVERFULL CARS

20 Clowns Never So Claustrophobic

It was a real stock car, but the driver was the only one racing. And he got away. Police in rural South Africa found two cows and two goats being transported in a compact car barely large enough for four people. The blue Fiat Uno was impounded Thursday after residents alerted police in a town in northern KwaZulu-Natal, the South African Press Association reported. A police spokesman said that when the officers arrived, the driver had loaded the animals into his vehicle and was trying to speed away. (AP)

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STRUCK A CHORD: Now there's at least one 10-year-old who won't mind taking violin lessons. A boy walking to school in Lancaster, Pa., escaped major injury after being hit by a car because the violin case he was carrying took most of the impact.

Nation

In Brief

WASHINGTON

House OKs Child Health Bill But Lacks Needed Majority

The House passed a revised children's health proposal Thursday, but not by the two-thirds margin that supporters will need if President Bush vetoes the measure as promised. The 265-142 vote was a victory for Bush and his allies, who urged House Republicans to reject Democrats' claims that changes to the legislation had met their chief concerns. The tally was seven votes short of a two-thirds majority. (AP)

AP/NASA

Space commanders Peggy Whitson, left, and Pamela Melroy meet in space.

CAPE CANAVERAL, FLA.

Shuttle Discovery Joins International Space Station

Astronauts aboard space shuttle Discovery and the international space station joined forces Thursday, linking their ships and kicking off the biggest construction job ever attempted by a single team in orbit. History was made with the 215-mile-high linkup: It was the first time two female commanders met in space. (AP)

Calm Winds Don't Stop Fires

President Bush views devastation as crews labor against blazes

SAN DIEGO | The Santa Ana winds that helped fires explode across Southern California were dying down Thursday, but the fight was far from over. Despite a massive aerial assault, several blazes remained far from containment as flames drew perilously close to thousands of homes.

Some of the hundreds of thousands of evacuees were being allowed back into their neighborhoods, and shelters were emptying. Qualcomm Stadium in San Diego, which at one point sheltered more than 10,000 people, had just 2,500 people left Thursday morning.

Crews found two burned bodies in a gutted house north of San Diego, authorities said Thursday, raising the number of deaths directly caused by the fire to three.

More than 482,000 acres — about 753 square miles — were burned in a broad arc from Ventura County north of Los Angeles east to the San Bernardino National Forest and south to the U.S.-Mexico border. In San Diego County, which received the worst of the fires, crews cut fire lines around the major blazes, but none of the four fires was more than 40 percent contained, and more than 8,500 homes remained threatened.

President Bush, who has declared a major disaster in a seven-county region, took an aerial tour of the devastated areas with Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger.

U.S. NAVY/AP

In this photo released by the U.S. Navy, Petty Officer 3rd Class Zach Sykora searches for a burning target in San Diego on which to dump 420 gallons of water. His unit has teamed up with other organizations that are fighting the wildfires in Southern California.

> "We are focusing on getting these people back up on their feet again."
>
> **LESLEY KIRK**, SAN DIEGO COUNTY

"It's a sad situation out there in Southern California," Bush said outside the White House before leaving for California. "I fully understand that the people have got a lot of anguish in their hearts. They just need to know a lot of folks care about them."

Running Springs resident Ricky Garcia returned to his house in the San Bernardino Mountains on Wednesday, worried that his street had been wiped out. But his house was unscathed, unlike those of his neighbors.

"I'm excited to see my cat and my house but absolutely devastated for my neighbors," he said.

More than 500,000 people were evacuated in San Diego County alone, part of the largest mass evacuation in California history.

"We are focusing more on recovery and getting these people back up on their feet again," county spokeswoman Lesley Kirk said.

ALLISON HOFFMAN (AP)

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DrBergWorkshop.com

Nation

34 | **The percentage of Americans** who say they believe in ghosts, according to a poll by The Associated Press. About 23 percent claimed to have seen a specter.

Huckabee Strong in Iowa

Republican is quietly becoming a contender in early primary state

DES MOINES, IOWA | Mike Huckabee, who strums a bass guitar and cracks jokes at campaign stops, is quietly establishing himself with Iowa voters as a serious candidate for the Republican presidential nomination.

"I think he's the sleeper candidate this year," said Steve Roberts, a Des Moines lawyer who sits on the Republican National Committee. "He makes a very positive impression in his public appearances and in the debates."

Huckabee doesn't have the money of Mitt Romney, the celebrity of Rudy Giuliani or the personal history of John McCain, but the former Arkansas governor has a message that resonates with many Iowans. He is an ordained Baptist minister whose opposition to abortion and gay rights appeals to social and religious conservatives.

Huckabee

In August, Huckabee finished second to Romney in a high-profile Iowa GOP straw poll.

Still, Huckabee has been unable to attract the necessary cash for his campaign, and he is stuck in low single digits in national polls. Huckabee raised $2.3 million as of Sept. 30 and had $650,000 cash on hand. By comparison, Giuliani had $16.6 million cash on hand, Romney $9.2 million and Fred Thompson $7.1 million.

Huckabee rejects the notion that big money is essential. "People have said you have to have this much money to be competitive and they've been wrong," he said.

Huckabee and others note that his rise in the polls comes amid signs that Republicans have not settled on a candidate.

"There have been some major surprises in the past," said Ray Hoffmann, Iowa GOP chairman. "If he does second or third here and then second or third in New Hampshire, people are going to have to take another look." MIKE GLOVER (AP)

MIAMI | FROM FLORIDA TO IRAQ

WILFREDO LEE/AP

PREPARED FOR DUTY: Members of the Army's 848th Forward Surgical Team retrieve a patient from a helicopter during a mock trauma exercise at the Ryder Trauma Center in Miami. Army medics, nurses, doctors and nurse anesthetists are routinely sent to the trauma center — one of the busiest in the nation — as preparation for their service in Iraq.

Neanderthals Possibly Had Red Hair

WASHINGTON | The image of Neanderthals may be in need of a makeover: Scientists say at least some of these extinct hominids could have had fair skin and red hair.

Researchers studying the DNA of Neanderthals found a mutation in two individuals that can affect skin and hair pigmentation, they reported in Thursday's online issue of the journal Science.

The mutation reduces the function of a gene known as MC1R. In modern humans, when a slightly different mutation reduces the function of that gene, the result is red hair and fair skin, researchers say.

Neanderthals lived in Europe and Asia about 400,000 years ago. The two fossils studied in the hair-color research were found in Italy and Spain. (AP)

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Nation

"Having won the Nobel Peace Prize and an Oscar, being vice president again would probably be a step down for him."

—**Sen. Barack Obama**, after a voter asked him to consider picking Al Gore as his running-mate

Dems, Rice Spar Over Contractors

Lawmakers accuse State Dept. of sloppy management in Iraq

WASHINGTON | House Democrats on Thursday accused Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice of grossly mismanaging diplomatic efforts in Iraq and concealing information from Congress, putting a visibly frustrated Rice on the defensive.

At a hearing by a congressional watchdog committee, Democratic lawmakers said the State Department under Rice had been too lax with armed security contractors, ignored corruption at the highest levels of the Iraqi government and was sloppy in overseeing construction of the U.S. Embassy in Baghdad.

"I think there was a huge gap between what she said and reality," said Rep. Henry Waxman, chairman of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee.

Waxman, D-Calif., and other Democrats said they would not call on Rice to resign, noting that their frustration is with the Bush administration's policies.

EVAN VUCCI/AP

Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice testifies Thursday at a House Oversight and Government Reform Committee hearing on the State Department's actions in Iraq.

"If you just change the deck chairs, it's not going to change the policy," said Rep. Peter Welch, D-Vt.

The hearing gave Democrats the venue to hammer the administration on the war. The strategy did not go unnoticed by Republicans.

Democrats seemed to be trying "to drill enough small holes in the bottom of the boat to sink the entire Iraqi enterprise, while still claiming undying support for the crew about to drown," said Rep. Tom Davis of Virginia.

The usually unflappable Rice became frustrated at several points, including a tense exchange with Welch on whether Iraqi Prime Minister Nouri al-Maliki was corrupt. Since April, he has required that Cabinet-level corruption investigations first receive his approval.

"To assault the prime minister of Iraq or anyone else in Iraq with here-to-date unsubstantiated allegations or lack of corroboration, in a setting that would simply fuel those allegations, I think, would be deeply damaging," Rice said.

ANNE FLAHERTY (AP)

Official: Dust At Ground Zero Did Not Kill Man

NEW YORK | The city's medical examiner concluded that the misuse of pills, not the dust of Ground Zero, caused the lung disease that killed a man who became a nationally known example of post-Sept. 11 illness, the examiner's spokeswoman said Thursday.

Zadroga

Chief Medical Examiner Charles Hirsch concluded that retired police detective James Zadroga got the lung disease that killed him by injecting ground-up pills into his bloodstream. (AP)

FEAR FACTOR: About 21 percent of Americans in a poll by FearNet.com say losing their memories is their top fear this Halloween; being buried alive was second, at 19 percent.

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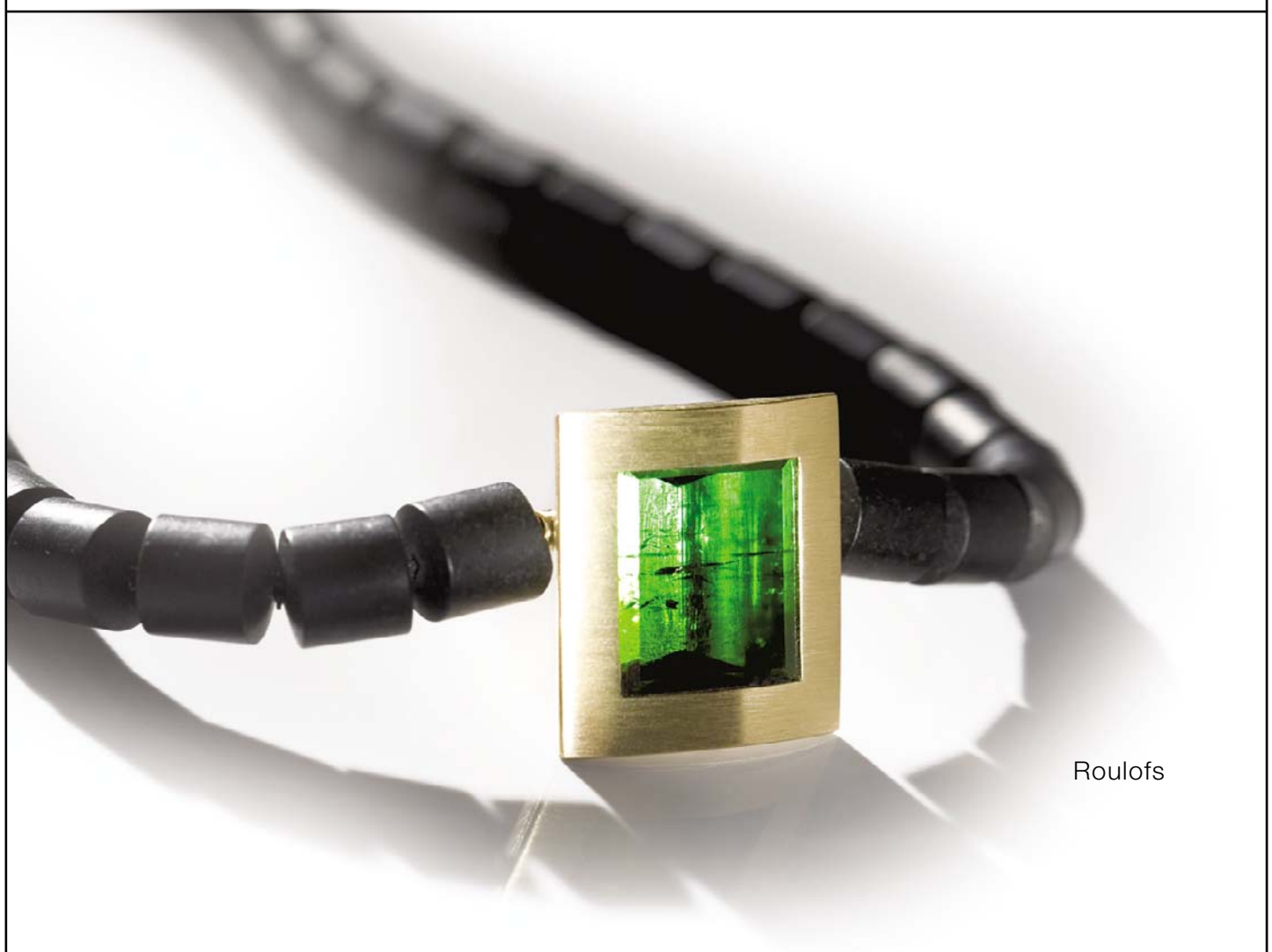
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World

LIGHTS OUT: France will eliminate all energy waste by households and ban incandescent light bulbs and polluting cars, under proposals announced Thursday by President Nicolas Sarkozy, who also met with ex-U.S. Vice President Al Gore.

Dissident Leader, Junta Official Meet

Nobel peace laureate discusses crackdown with new minister

YANGON, MYANMAR | Pro-democracy leader Aung San Suu Kyi — under house arrest for 12 of the last 18 years — met for a little more than an hour Thursday with a Myanmar government official in a meeting broadcast on state television.

Suu Kyi and government minister Aung Kyi were shown seated in high-backed chairs having a discussion — a scene that suggested two dignitaries in a meeting rather than someone under house arrest.

The Nobel peace laureate was driven from her home to a nearby government guesthouse, where she held talks with Aung Kyi, the newly appointed "minister for relations," the report said.

AFP/GETTY IMAGES

Aung San Suu Kyi , left, meets with Myanmar's "minister of relations," Aung Kyi.

It was the first known meeting between Suu Kyi and the retired major general who was appointed to the post Oct. 8 to hold talks with her.

His exact duties have not been detailed, but it appeared Aung Kyi would coordinate all of Suu Kyi's contacts with both the regime and the United Nations, which is seeking to end the political deadlock between democracy advocates and the junta.

Appointing a liaison officer was suggested by U.N. special envoy Ibrahim Gambari during a visit to Myanmar weeks ago, state media said. Gambari met with both top junta officials and with Suu Kyi twice at a government guesthouse during his visit.

Zalmay Khalilzad, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, said "the meeting is a good thing, but not sufficient."

"There is a need for a full reconciliation process to start, a transition" to democracy, he told reporters at U.N. headquarters in New York. (AP)

BBC Reporter Recounts Days Of Captivity

LONDON | During his 114 days as a hostage in Gaza, British Broadcasting Corp. reporter Alan Johnston played out in his mind how he might be executed, hoping it would help him keep his dignity if the moment came.

More than three months after his release, Johnston shared the details of how he coped with death threats from his Palestinian captors with comments broadcast Thursday on BBC radio and television programs and carried on the broadcaster's Web site. "I just had ... an image of myself sitting there in that dingy room, handcuffed, a hood over my head and this profound feeling that I was at the lowest, lowest ebb of my life, in real danger, frightened," he told BBC's "Panorama." (AP)

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HIGH RAISE: Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern gave himself a hefty pay increase Thursday, putting his salary higher than both President Bush and British Prime Minister Gordon Brown. Ireland's 14 Cabinet members and 20 lower-ranking ministers also awarded themselves raises.

In Brief

MOHAMMAD IQBAL/AP

Pakistanis move a wounded man following a deadly explosion on Thursday.

PESHAWAR, PAKISTAN

Suicide Blast Strikes Military Truck, Kills 20

A suicide car bomber hit a military truck in northwestern Pakistan on Thursday killing at least 20 people, two days after troops were sent in to quell pro-Taliban militants, officials said. The blast comes a week after a bloody assassination attempt on ex-Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto in the southern city of Karachi. She plans to start traveling elsewhere in Pakistan on Saturday. (AP)

BAGHDAD

Crocker Holds Blackwater Bodyguards in 'High Regard'

The U.S. ambassador said Thursday he still held Blackwater USA bodyguards in "high regard," even as he labeled the killing of 17 Iraqis by the company's security contractors a "horrific" incident that prompted him to call for an FBI investigation. "Those guys guard my back. And I have to say they do it extremely well. I continue to have high regard for the individuals who work for Blackwater as I do for other security contractors. That said, the incident in September was a horrific one," Ambassador Ryan Crocker said. (AP)

JERUSALEM

Olmert Downplays Mideast Peace Conference Hope

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert said Thursday that an upcoming Mideast peace conference would not result in a final deal with the Palestinians and may not take place at all. His government moved closer to a punishing regime of power cuts to the Gaza Strip in retaliation for rocket attacks. (AP)

Turkey: U.S. Won't Deter Incursion

Jets patrol the Iraqi border as military holds off on attack

ISTANBUL, TURKEY | Turkey warned Thursday that U.S. objections will not stop its troops from crossing into Iraq to pursue Kurdish separatists, while a steady stream of U.S.-made Turkish fighter jets roared across the skies along the border.

High-level Iraqi officials arrived in Turkey as part of frantic efforts to persuade the government not to order an attack on Kurdish guerrilla bases in northern Iraq, and the U.S. ambassador to Iraq sent American diplomats to join the delegation.

Turkey's leaders have been demanding that U.S. and Iraqi authorities stop Turkish Kurd rebels from staging attacks across the frontier, threatening to send in a large-scale offensive if nothing is done soon.

Turkey still seems willing to refrain from a big attack until at least early next month, when it is scheduled to host foreign ministers to discuss Iraq. Prime Minister Recep Tayyip Erdogan is expected to go to Washington afterward for talks with President Bush.

Turkish artillery has been periodically firing across the border, and Turkish television showed video of smoke rising from three villages in northern Iraq that were purportedly hit by shells Thursday.

Dogan news agency, which provided the footage, said there were no casualties because villagers had fled their homes.

The army, meanwhile, reported a clash with rebels earlier in the week. It said a "group of terrorists" was spotted preparing an attack near a military outpost in Semdinli province close to Iraq Tuesday and troops opened fire. CHRISTOPHER TORCHIA (AP)

IBRAHIM USTA/AP

ON THE BORDER: Turkish soldiers patrol in Yuksekova, in Hakkari province, near the Turkish-Iraqi-Iranian border, in southeastern Turkey. The military has refrained from a major attack, but Turkey said U.S. objections will not stop an incursion into Iraq.

SCHOOLTEACHER SLAIN IN BAGHDAD:

➜ **A SUNNI SCHOOLTEACHER** was hijacked as he drove to visit his sister in a predominantly Shiite area of Baghdad on Thursday. His body was found an hour later with three gunshots to his eyes. Iraqi police blamed Shiite gang members for the killing — a grim reminder that sectarian hatreds and crimes persist regardless of declining violence in the capital. Ahmed al-Janabi, a 45-year-old father of three, was stopped at a southwest Baghdad intersection by gunmen in two cars. They drove him away in his own car after inspecting his national ID and food ration card. His name doomed him: the al-Janabi tribe is mainly Sunni. Police found his body in the car in a nearby neighborhood, with the gunshot wounds to his eyes, according to an officer at the hospital where police delivered the body. (AP)

Putin Warns Against Iran Sanctions

Russian leader says diplomacy will help resolve nuclear dispute

LISBON, PORTUGAL | Russia's President Vladimir Putin on Thursday warned strongly against new international sanctions on Iran, saying they would lead to a dead end.

Putin, in Portugal for a summit with leaders of the European Union, said the standoff over Iran's nuclear program should be resolved through talks, pointing at North Korea as an example."Why worsen the situation and bring it to a dead end by threatening sanctions or military action?" Putin said in a veiled reference to the U.S. push for harsher international sanctions against Tehran.

STEVEN GOVERNO/AP

Vladimir Putin warned against acting "like a madman with a razor blade."

"Running around like a madman with a razor blade, waving it around, is not the best way to resolve the situation," the Russian leader said.

Putin spoke after the Bush administration imposed sweeping new sanctions against Iran, cutting off key Iranian military and banking institutions from the American financial system for Tehran's alleged support for terrorism and nuclear weapons ambitions. Putin did not directly refer to the U.S. actions. (AP)

Study: Primates In Grave Danger

BANGKOK, THAILAND | Almost a third of all primates are in danger of extinction because of rampant habitat destruction, the commercial sale of their meat and the trade in illegal wildlife, a report released Friday said.

Of the world's 394 primate species, 114 are classified as threatened with extinction by the World Conservation Union. The report by Conservation International and the International Primatological Society focuses on the plight of the 25 most endangered primates, including China's Hainan gibbon, of which only 17 remain. (AP)

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Local

Metro Asks for Rider Input

Board to hold public hearings on proposed new fares and fees

The Metro board voted Thursday to ask riders for their input on a proposal that would significantly increase rush-hour subway fares and parking fees but would raise bus fares by only a dime.

The plan calls for a 30-cent increase in the rush-hour base subway boarding charge to $1.65 and a parking increase of $1.15. There would be no increase in the off-peak subway fare.

But it is almost certain that these will not be the final numbers. The board will decide on new fares after public hearings in the next few weeks. Under Metro's rule, the board can only lower the proposed fares, not increase them. New fares would go into effect next year.

The plan calls for cash-paying bus riders to pay 10 cents more, or $1.35, but there would be no increase for bus riders who pay with electronic SmarTrip cards. Metro would have one year to phase out paper transfers that allow passengers to change buses for free.

On the rails, in addition to the increase in the rush-hour subway boarding charge, the maximum rush-hour fare for a subway trip would increase to $4.70, from $3.90.

For parking, the $1.15 increase would be on top of the $3.75 to $4 that Metro charges at some of its suburban lots. In addition, the proposal calls for Metro to increase the number of reserved parking spaces by 3,500, 70 percent more than the current 5,000. Reserved spots cost $45 per month in addition to the daily parking fee, and many lots fill quickly and have long waiting lists.

LENA SUN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Takoma Park Dispute

➜ Metro decides to delay a vote on a townhouse development at the Takoma Metro station after neighborhood opposition and a plea from Gov. O'Malley | **Today's Metro**

IN The Washington Post

WASHINGTON | MONUMENTALLY DREARY

LINDA DAVIDSON/TWP

FEELING GRAY: A light mist covered the greater D.C. area Thursday, keeping the sky overcast and the sidewalks soaked for the day. These tourists looking at the Washington Monument from the Jefferson Memorial didn't seem to mind.

Davis Will Not Run For Senate

Decision sets up likely race between 2 of the state's ex-governors

RICHMOND, VA. | U.S. Rep. Thomas M. Davis said Thursday he will not run for the Senate seat being vacated next year by fellow Republican John W. Warner, likely setting up a race between two former governors.

"We're not going to do the Senate this time," Davis told reporters after an invitation-only breakfast at a Washington, D.C., luxury hotel. The decision sets up a likely race involving two former governors — Democrat Mark R. Warner and Republican Jim Gilmore.

Democrats believe the race between the popular and wealthy Mark Warner and Gilmore will allow them to expand their one-seat U.S. Senate majority. Mark Warner announced his intent to run for the seat in September and raised more than $1.1 million in just 17 days.

Gilmore said he will make his plans known later this fall. (AP)

O'Malley: Expand Md. Health Care

ANNAPOLIS, MD. | Gov. Martin O'Malley wants to extend health insurance coverage to 100,000 of an estimated 800,000 uninsured Marylanders by helping small businesses cover their employees and expanding Medicaid coverage to poor adults.

The General Assembly will consider O'Malley's proposal in a special session that begins next week. The legislature is to meet in an effort to solve a $1.7 billion budget deficit and find $400 million for transportation projects.

O'Malley said his health care plan is linked to solving the budget deficit because 25 percent of the state's budget goes toward health costs. (AP)

Fenty Chooses 1st Ed. Ombudsman

Mayor says Kinlow is last major appointment to education team

Mayor Adrian M. Fenty announced Thursday that he has chosen a former D.C. school board member as the first ombudsman for public education in the District.

Tonya Vidal Kinlow "will be the city's face of customer service for education," Fenty said in a statement released by his office. Kinlow, the mayor said, was the final major appointment of his education team.

The ombudsman position is considered critical to Fenty's school reform effort. The mayor convinced the D.C. Council to downgrade the D.C. Board of Education in the spring and give him direct control of the 50,000-student school system. Fenty appointed as chancellor Michelle A. Rhee, who is making changes to the school system's central office.

Kinlow, 46, serves as vice president for government relations at the District of Columbia Hospital Association and is an appointed member and vice president of the D.C. State Board of Education. She also is the vice chairman of the board of DC Voice, an advocacy group for schools. Kinlow said she will resign from the hospital association and the state board upon starting as the ombudsman. DAVID NAKAMURA AND JOE HOLLEY (THE WASHINGTON POST)

Kinlow

Bus Driver Struck, Killed by Truck

ARLINGTON, VA. | A Metrobus driver was struck and killed by a tractor-trailer Thursday after exiting a bus that was having mechanical trouble, authorities said.

Keith Dodson, 37, of Washington D.C., was hit about 6 a.m. on the access road from South Glebe Road to southbound Interstate 395 in Arlington, police said.

Dodson was on his way to make his first trip of the morning when the bus began having problems, Metro spokeswoman Lisa Farbstein said.

Dodson was standing on the right shoulder when he was struck by the tractor-trailer that was attempting to pass the stalled bus. He was transported to George Washington University Hospital, where he died. (AP)

The Lotteries

Thursday, Oct. 25

DISTRICT	
Mid-day Lucky Numbers	3-7-5
Evening Lucky Numbers (Wed.)	4-3-5
Mid-day DC 4	8-1-5-5
Evening DC 4 (Wed.)	6-5-6-9
Rolling Cash Five (Wed.)	10-14-20-28-30
Daily 6 (Wed.)	1-22-23-25-26-36 Bonus: 17
Hot Lotto (Wed.)	10-22-24-30-39 (12)

MULTI-STATE GAMES	
Powerball (Wed.)	10-11-18-49-52 (2)
Power Play	4X

MARYLAND	
Mid-day Pick 3	9-2-1
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	8-3-4
Mid-day Pick 4	4-2-1-3
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	6-6-5-1
Match 5 (Wed.)	22-26-34-36-39 Bonus: 6
Lotto (Wed.)	2-16-21-37-38-41

VIRGINIA	
Mid-day Pick 3 (Thurs.)	8-6-7
Evening Pick 3 (Wed.)	3-6-3
Mid-day Pick 4 (Thurs.)	3-2-3-4
Evening Pick 4 (Wed.)	6-7-8-1
Mid-day Cash 5 (Thurs.)	7-19-20-25-33
Evening Cash 5 (Wed.)	2-8-18-20-30
Win for Life (Wed.)	3-4-12-19-26-37

All winning numbers are official only when validated at a lottery ticket location or a lottery claims office. Drawings that occur after Express's deadline will be published two days later.

www.simplywireless.com

Healthy Adult Volunteers Needed

The National Institute of Mental Health is conducting a psychopharmacology study of mild stress and memory. Participants will be interviewed and will complete a series of tasks during which physiological functioning will be recorded. Volunteers must be between the ages of 18-50.

Financial compensation will be provided for participation.

Call: **1-800-411-1222**
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or for other studies: www.clinicaltrials.gov

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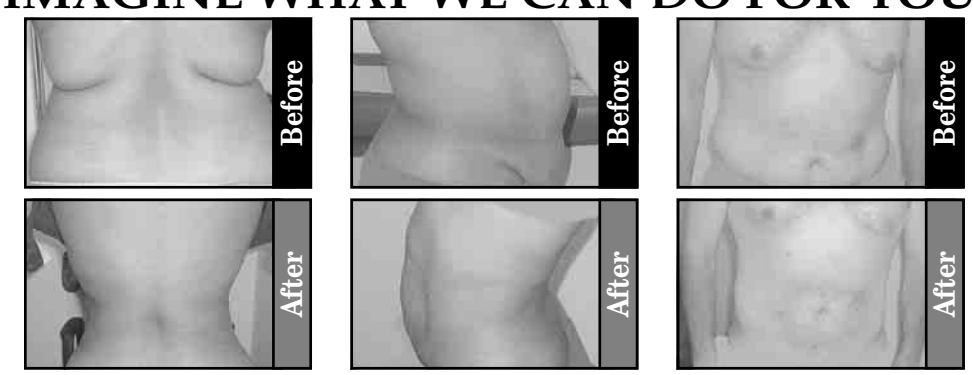

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Money

SEND ME, YOU WILL: The U.S. Postal Service sought to harness the Force Thursday, releasing a new postage stamp featuring "Star Wars'" enigmatic Yoda. The Jedi master was selected for an individual stamp in a public vote.

Energy Giant BP Settles Lawsuits

Company was accused of cheating consumers of millions of dollars

WASHINGTON | Global energy giant BP PLC agreed Thursday to pay $373 million to settle criminal and civil charges that it overcharged U.S. propane consumers by millions of dollars and ignored environmental warnings that resulted in an Alaska oil spill and a deadly explosion in Texas.

Additionally, a federal grand jury in Chicago indicted four former BP traders who were allegedly caught on tape discussing a scheme to pump up the company's profits by cornering the markets for propane.

The federal investigation of Europe's second-largest energy company and its executives will continue during a three-year probation period, Acting Attorney General Peter Keisler said on Thursday.

"Obviously, the actions that we're responding to today reflect that there were some very serious problems within the company," Keisler said, announcing the cases in Washington.

BP America Chairman and President Bob Malone apologized in a statement.

"These agreements are an admission that, in these instances, our operations failed to meet our own standards and the requirements of the law. For that, we apologize," Malone said. LARA JAKES JORDAN (AP)

PAUL ELLIS/AFP/GETTY IMAGES

BP will pay a total of $373 million to settle criminal and civil charges against it.

Market Action

New York Stock Exchange

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
ACA Cap n	3.89	+.54	+16.1
CDI	26.60	+2.83	+11.9
VarianMed	47.67	+4.47	+10.3
VMware n	114.00	+10.48	+10.1
Skechers	24.06	+2.12	+9.7

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Wellcare	42.67	-72.50	-63.0
SturmRug	10.65	-6.45	-37.7
Radian	9.99	-3.09	-23.6
BrshEMat	43.64	-11.58	-21.0
WP Stew	6.26	-1.45	-18.8

NASDAQ Stock Market

Gainers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
Data IO	5.95	+1.93	+48.0
FlamelT	12.03	+2.63	+28.0
IntegrBcsh	3.89	+.81	+26.3
MrcCmp	13.49	+2.61	+24.0
Iomai	1.88	-.01	-0.5

Losers

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	DAILY PERCENT CHANGE
VascoDta	26.13	-13.43	-33.9
AlignTech	19.07	-9.63	-33.6
WSB Fn n	4.73	-1.87	-28.3
ACmclLn n	14.24	-5.54	-28.0
TriadGty	6.04	-2.19	-26.6

DOW	NASDAQ	S&P 500
-3.33	-23.90	-1.48
-0.02	-0.86	-0.10
13671.92	2750.86	1514.40

Rates

	CURRENT	PREVIOUS WEEK
Prime Rate	8.25	8.25
Fed Funds close	5.23	5.23
3-month disc	4.76	4.81
2-year	4.68	4.64
10-year	4.67	4.68
30-year	4.83	4.86

Currency (Dollars in foreign currency)

	TODAY	PREVIOUS DAY	YEAR AGO
British Pound	.4875	.4880	.5321
Canadian Dollar	.9664	.9706	1.1254
European Euro	.6983	.7014	.7927
Japanese Yen	114.06	114.12	118.98
Mexican Peso	10.8265	10.8405	10.7864
Taiwanese Dollar	32.59	32.67	33.28

Pharmacy Stocks

STOCK	LAST	DAILY CHANGE	YEAR TO DATE PERCENT CHANGE
AbtLab	53.87	+1.01	+10.6
Allergan s	66.57	+2.16	+11.2
AstraZen	49.20	-.33	-8.1
BarrPhm	54.59	+.59	+8.9
BrMySq	29.36	+.94	+12.7
Cephln	72.53	-1.26	+3.0
ForestLab	38.29	-.36	-24.3
Hospira	40.67	+.24	+21.1
JohnJn	63.95	-.49	-3.1
LillyEli	52.43	-3.72	+.6
Merck	57.06	+.86	+30.9
Pfizer	24.29	+.31	-6.2
SchergPl	30.00	+.07	+26.9
WarnerChil	18.70	-.42	+35.3
Wyeth	48.51	+.95	-4.7

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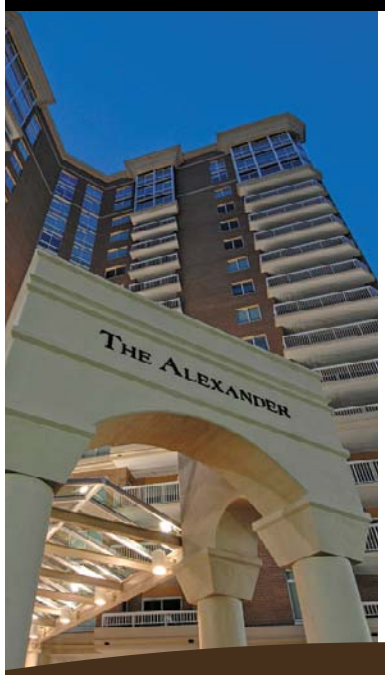

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Sunday in The Washington Post

5 more reasons to read

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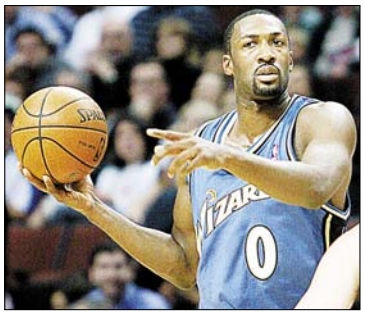


Zero to Hero

Rising from a crack house to full houses in the NBA, Gilbert Arenas has always seen himself as the underdog. Now an All-Star, "Agent Zero" may need new motivation. **MAGAZINE**

Work for 'Peanuts'

PBS offers a portrait of "Peanuts" creator Charles Schulz, the man behind Charlie Brown and Snoopy. **TV WEEK**

Buy, Buy, Dubai

Architecture has always followed money, but has it ever done so to the extent now mushrooming in the Persian Gulf kingdom? **STYLE & ARTS**

Caribbean Dream

Looking to plan that winter getaway before it gets too cold? We tell you how to find the right resort in the islands, at the right price for you. **TRAVEL**

Classic, Revisited

A translation by the acclaimed Richard Pevear and Larissa Volokhonsky, offers a new look at "War and Peace." Michael Dirda reviews. **BOOK WORLD**

JUANA ARIAS/FTWP

MEMORIES: Mortified members hunt down scraps of their childhood so they can share their earliest dreams in public.

The Dream Team

Area residents aren't Mortified to share their earliest hopes

IN SUNDAY SOURCE | This is about a kid who simply wanted to _____.

Fill in the blank. Try to parse your adolescence into a couple of words.

Kiss a girl.

Be valedictorian.

Win the 100-meter dash at the all-county track meet.

For the past few months, several D.C.-area residents have been trying to extract meaning from things they wrote when they were kids.

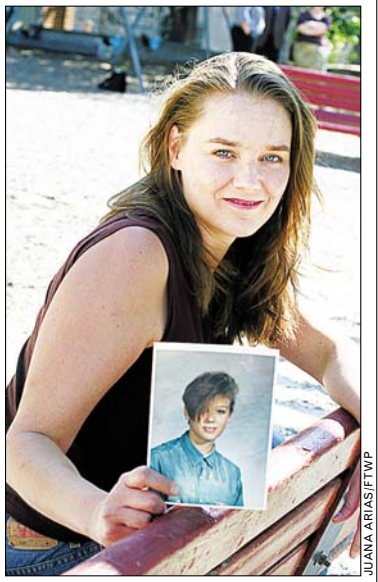
Sappy stuff. Boy-crazy stuff. Dark and depressed harangues against society. Stuff that was for their eyes only.

Until now. Seven adults will publicly recite material that never was meant to be read by anyone — let alone performed for an audience — next week at HR-57 Center for the Preservation of Jazz and Blues. They not only must read it aloud, but also hope they've packaged it together in a style that lets audience members laugh or squirm or nod their heads knowingly. It has the potential to be a twofold humiliation.

Caryn Sykes has the shoebox.

She sits on a stool as a panel of five people regards her with interest. She opens the shoe box and produces a photo of herself from her freshman year of high school. The 15-year-old Caryn sports a horrendous Reagan-era hairstyle, the kind of backward-mullet swoop mainstreamed by Mike Score of the '80s synth-pop group A Flock of Seagulls.

The five people in front of Sykes gasp, then buckle with laughter. They are the producers of Mortified, a comic excavation of adolescent writing, art and media shared by the authors in front of strangers, according to the Web site.



JUANA ARIAS/FTWP

D.C. Mortified member Caryn Sykes displays a photo of her from high school.

Mortified has established itself in Los Angeles, New York, Chicago, Boston and San Francisco, and now a group of D.C. residents is preparing its capital debut on Nov. 6 and 7 as part of AngstGiving, a monthlong, multi-city performance series.

D.C. resident Sykes, 35, went in front of the panel a couple of months ago to spill her guts, hoping she'd show performance potential.

"Sometime in high school, I got into the habit of drunk journaling," she prefaces, before diving into her curled heap of spiral notebooks.

June 12, 1989, begins like this: "Drank a little, watched a movie, lost my virginity and then he took me home." The other entries are laden with quotations from Madonna, pubescent combinations of curse words and revelations written profoundly (and now recited ironically). Sykes gets to one particular sentence that seems to echo prophetically: "I kind of hope all these journals get published after I die."

She's not dead, of course. She just grew up. Although you might argue that her adolescent self is dead. Either way, Caryn Sykes circa 1989 is getting her wish 18 years later.

In the end, this isn't really about being mortified. "Mortify" means to subdue or deaden, and to subject to severe and vexing embarrassment. If anything, Mortified is about both reveling in our former angst and celebrating how it has informed who we are today. It's about delighting in our outdated perspectives of the world, in our kid logic.

Next week is a kind of epilogue, then, to the story of Caryn Sykes' drunken journaling and to the other performers' desires to fit in or stand out. Said one: "All of us are looking for that redemption. By coming together and just laughing and getting out these old horrible experiences we've had, we can just kind of overcome it. It's over."

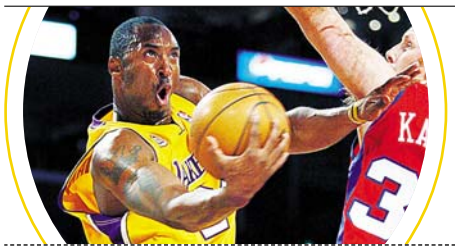
DAN ZAK (THE WASHINGTON POST)

for more ...

IN SUNDAY SOURCE

Read about the embarrassing teen years of the other participants in Mortified or find out costs and times of the shows, plus get tips on journal-keeping.

IN The Washington Post



NBA

Season's Greetings: Kobe Bryant's future in L.A., Kevin Garnett's new digs and the Wizards' health top our NBA season story lines. | 19

Sports Weekend

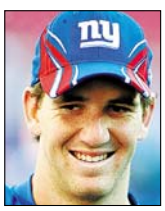
TV Lineup

JACK DEMPSEY/AP

Josh Fogg will draw Dice-K Matsuzaka in Game 3 of the World Series Saturday.

➜ **MOUNTAIN TIME:** After a travel day, the Red Sox will head to Colorado for some fresh mountain air. High-priced import Daisuke Matsuzaka will get the start for the Red Sox against Massachusetts native Josh Fogg, who will take the hill for the Rockies in Game 3 (Sat. 8 p.m. on FOX). Game 4 will feature Jon Lester for Boston and Aaron Cook for the Rockies, and, yes, "WHO???" is an appropriate response to both of those names (Sun. 8 p.m. on FOX).

➜ **SUNDAY'S EARLY GAMES:** Eli Manning and the New York Giants travel across the pond to play the Miami Dolphins (1 p.m. on Fox) while Carson Palmer and the Cincinnati Bengals try to defend home turf against the Pittsburgh Steelers (1 p.m. on CBS).



Manning

➜ **ROAD RAGE:** Every lap matters when Jeff Gordon holds on to the Nextel Cup lead by only 53 points. Jimmie Johnson will be gunning for the lead this weekend in Georgia (2 p.m. on ABC).

➜ **SATURDAY'S BEST:** After a tough break at the hands of Virginia last week, the Maryland Terps look for some measure of revenge on the Clemson Tigers (3 p.m. on ABC). And is this the year Oregon topples normally dominant USC (3 p.m. on CSN) in a battle of the best teams in the Pac-10?

Patriots Games

Redskins defenders play coy on plans vs. Brady, New England

REDSKINS | The Redskins started playing defense four days early this week.

When asked about the Patriots' statistically sublime start to the season, London Fletcher said he hadn't paid much attention. Fellow linebacker Rocky McIntosh wouldn't even address questions about Tom Brady, instead grabbing some possessions out of his locker while giggling before backing away from reporters through the locker room double doors.

Even Fred Smoot walked away from a gaggle of television cameras, a feat of willpower for him along the lines of O.J. Simpson making a good decision. "We're just going to show up and play football on Sunday," the usually hyper-talkative cornerback said. "We ain't got too much to say."

V

4 P.M. | Ch. 5
Sunday

Or at least they're just not saying it. With parity prevalent, chances to knock off a Goliath rarely present themselves in the NFL. But that's exactly what the Redskins' defense will have to do Sunday against a New England team that's averaging 39.7 points per game.

Washington's defense may be the best the Patriots (7-0) have faced this season. Still, it's going to take a significant effort if the Redskins (4-2) want to pull the upset of the season.

NICK LAHAM/GETTY IMAGES

MESSAGE RECEIVED

It's hard to think Redskins offensive guru Al Saunders doesn't look at New England and wonder what's gone wrong.

Washington signed Antwaan Randle El and Brandon Lloyd last offseason to team with Santana Moss in what was supposed to morph into a quick-strike offense. Why the Redskins are still mired in old-school grinding is a mystery. "I'd love to give you an answer," tight end Chris Cooley said with a shrug.

New England's trio of Randy Moss (732 yards, 10 TDs), Wes Welker (524 yards, 5 TDs) and Donte' Stallworth (367 yards, three TDs) are what the Redskins envisioned.

Randle El hopes Washington will be able to look downfield ... eventually. "We're going to take off," he said. ERIC BRANDNER

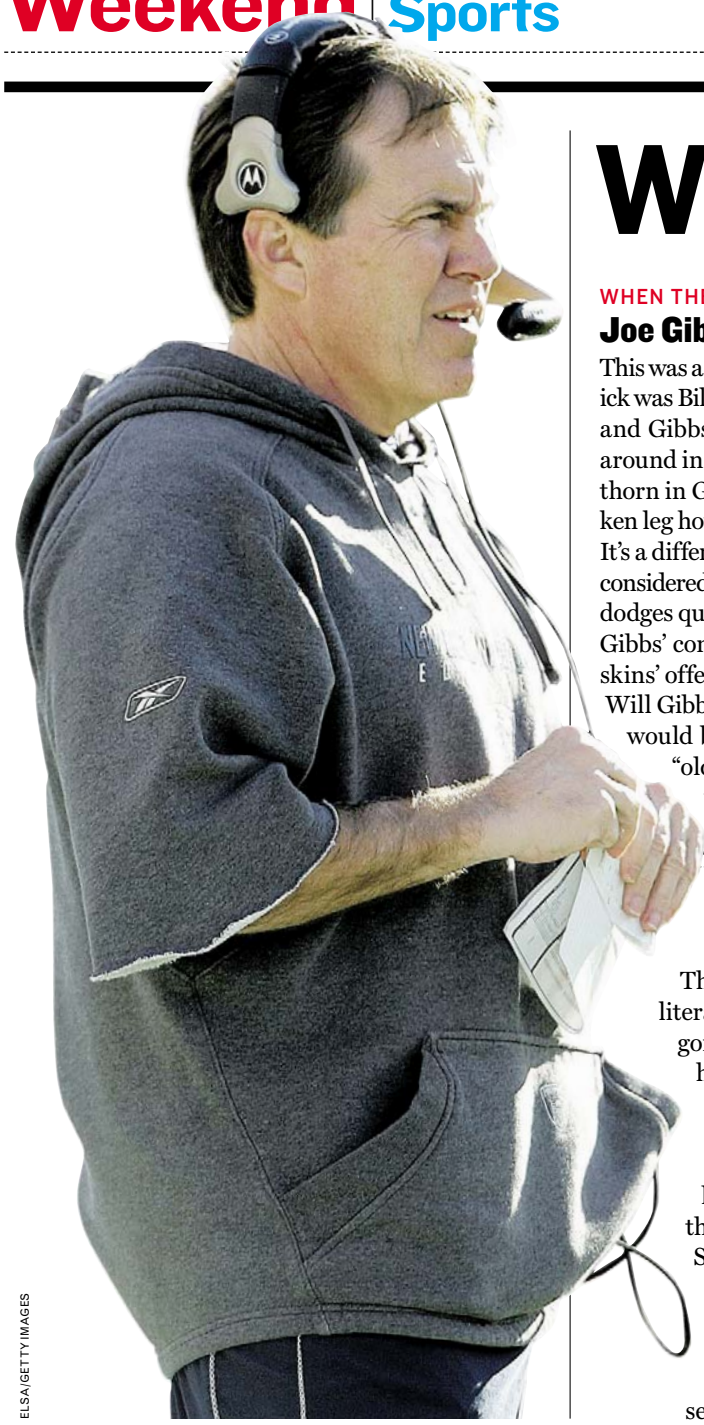
That effort starts up front, where Brady has been sacked just seven times this season and has thrown only two interceptions in 229 attempts. "Brady is very poised and very accurate," Fletcher said, in one of the defense's more detail-laden comments Wednesday.

What Fletcher and the defense aren't saying is the Redskins have to figure out how to get in Brady's face and force him to make mistakes if they want even a chance at winning Sunday in Foxborough, Mass.

Up north, Bill Belichick — also known for not wanting to speak about opponents' game tapes — praised the Redskins. "It's hard to drive the ball on them because they eventually make plays to knock you out of there," he said. "They are hard to score on. That's the bottom line."

ERIC BRANDNER

NFL | **Study Abroad** It takes a big man to admit his weakness, and at 6-foot-2, 245 pounds, Channing Crowder is certainly a big man. Apparently, the Dolphins linebacker isn't much of a geography buff, as he told reporters on the eve of the Dolphins-Giants game in London. "I couldn't find London on a map if they didn't have the names of the countries. ... I know London Fletcher. We did a football camp together. That's the closest thing I know to London. ... I'm sure that's a coincidental name." Just watch out for the "that ain't what we call 'football'" argument. (EXPRESS)



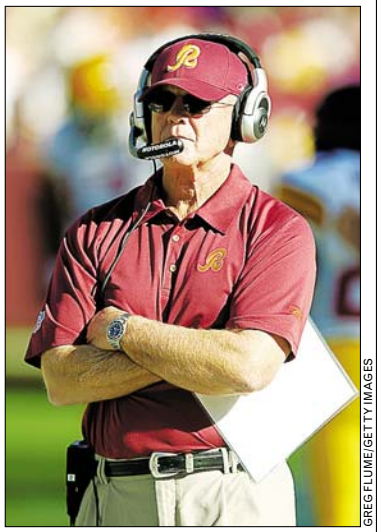
ELSA/GETTY IMAGES

What to Watch For

WHEN THE REDSKINS HAVE THE BALL:

Joe Gibbs vs. Bill Belichick

This was a marquee matchup 20 years ago when Belichick was Bill Parcells' defensive coordinator in New York and Gibbs was winning Super Bowls the first time around in Washington. But the Giants were always a thorn in Gibbs' side — just ask Joe Theismann's broken leg how those games turned out most of the time. It's a different situation these days, as Belichick is now considered the most innovative of coaches — even as he dodges questions about "spygate" — and it seems like Gibbs' conservative nature is holding back the Redskins' offense that is supposedly run by Al Saunders. Will Gibbs turn young QB Jason Campbell loose? It would be a step in erasing the "predictable" and "old-fashioned" labels that mark his second tenure in D.C.

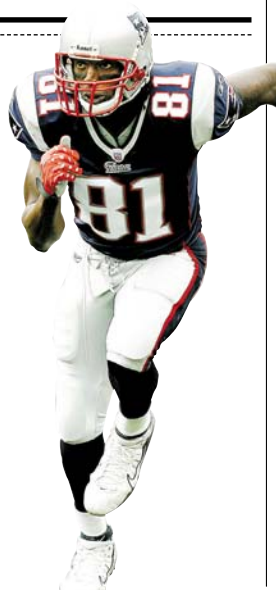


GREG FLUME/GETTY IMAGES

WHEN THE PATRIOTS HAVE THE BALL:

WR Randy Moss vs. CB Shawn Springs

The last time Randy Moss was in town, the Redskins literally chased him off the field before the final gun had gone off. Playing for a Super Bowl contender seems to have revitalized the former Vikings and Raiders receiver's career and changed his complete outlook as a professional. Not only does he lead the league with 732 receiving yards and 10 touchdowns, but Moss also has scored in all but one game. If any group can slow the all-pro, it would be the Redskins' secondary, led by Springs — who will surely be helped by Sean Taylor, Carlos Rogers and Fred Smoot in coverage duties against Moss. Washington's pass defense, ranked in the top-10 in most major categories, is the toughest test the high-flying Patriots have seen so far this season. MATT SWENSON (EXPRESS)



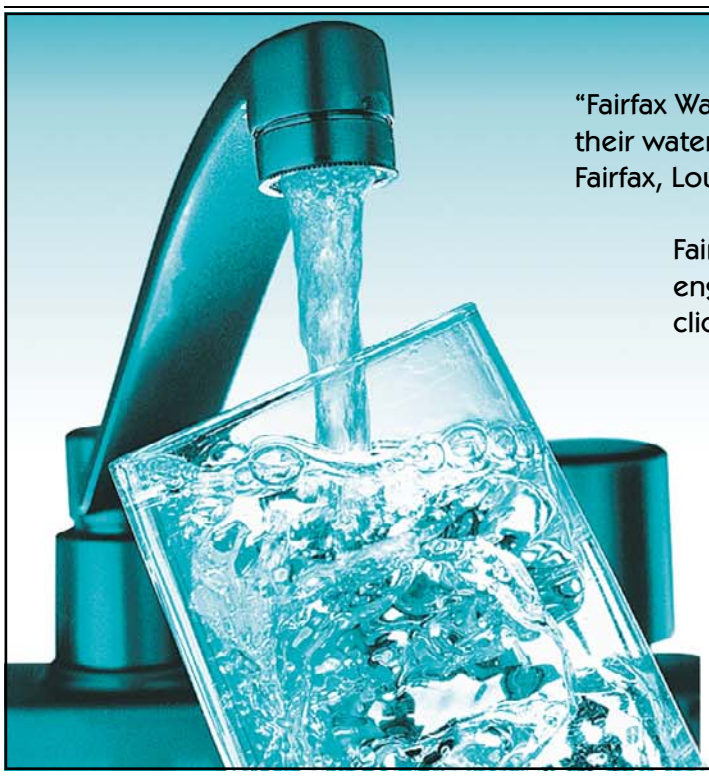
X-FACTORS

→ Redskins P Derrick Frost

Given this city's disdain for kickers, it's remarkable to think that Frost had been an afterthought this year. Then came last week's blocked punt. But, in general, Frost has been performing adequately. He is averaging a respectable 42.1 yards per kick and has placed 11 punts inside the 20. In theory, having to move long distances down the field to score touchdowns should slow down New England's propensity to cross the goal line seemingly at will. That's the theory, anyway. The least Frost can do is to avoid another blocked kick this week.

→ Patriots LB Mike Vrabel

The former all-pro linebacker gets paid to be a versatile mainstay for New England's defense. It's a job he is very good at. But the big fear is when Vrabel lines up as a tight end on offense. There, all he does is catch touchdowns. He has nine career catches, all for 1- or 2-yard scores, including two in the Super Bowl. You can't stop Vrabel; you can only hope to contain him.



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Sunday PICK'EM

	Matt Swenson SPORTS COLUMNIST, EXPRESS	Ian Herbert SPORTS EDITOR, EXPRESS	Dan Steinberg "D.C. SPORTS BOG," THE WASHINGTON POST	Dave Goldberg SPORTS WRITER ASSOCIATED PRESS
REDSKINS (PLUS 16) AT PATRIOTS	**PATRIOTS** Redskins won't embarrass themselves but will still lose big.	**PATRIOTS** I want to say the Redskins will keep it close, but Belichick won't let them.	**PATRIOTS** If the Redskins forfeited, they could sneak in under the spread.	**PATRIOTS** The Redskins are a potential playoff team, but New England is unique.
EAGLES (MINUS 1) AT VIKINGS	**EAGLES** The Eagles are bound to start winning games at some point, right?	**EAGLES** The Eagles are bad, but it's going to take more than six passes to beat them.	**VIKINGS** There's a reason they call Adrian Peterson "Purple Jesus."	**EAGLES** Neither team can score.
STEELERS (MINUS 3.5) AT BENGALS	**STEELERS** Pittsburgh bounces back after a tough road loss against Denver.	**BENGALS** These games are always dogfights, and it feels like a trap for Pittsburgh.	**STEELERS** Cincinnati is terrible, and Pittsburgh isn't.	**STEELERS** Ben Roethlisberger doesn't throw ducks like Chad Pennington.
LIONS (PLUS 5) AT BEARS	**BEARS** Don't look know, but Brian Griese has looked pretty good of late.	**BEARS** The Lions have been up and down all year, but not up enough to win at Chicago.	**BEARS** Hard to pick a team that's lost its last two road games by a combined 66 points.	**BEARS** The Lions are awful on the road.
PACKERS (PLUS 3) AT BRONCOS	**PACKERS** This could turn into a very bad week for Denver sports fans.	**BRONCOS** Not only are the Broncos at home, but they are also in the AFC.	**PACKERS** Karma seems to have left the Mile High City; expect several Brett Favre home-run balls.	**BRONCOS** The Broncos awoke last week. The Packers regrouped after a lucky win.

SEASON TALLY | Matt Swenson: 15-17-4; Ian Herbert 15-17-4; Celebs: 22-19-6; Dave Goldberg: 13-10-2; Leader: Mark Plotkin (4-1)

Undefeateds Carry Targets

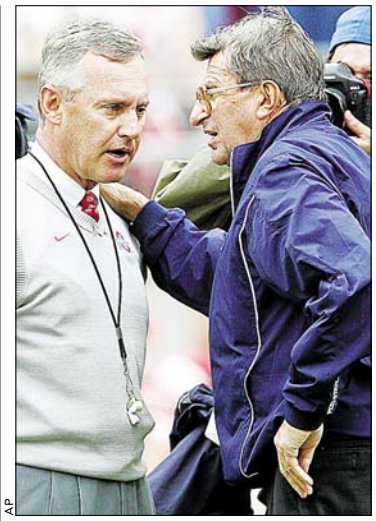
Hawaii may be the last team standing after this weekend's games

COLLEGE PICKS | It wouldn't be surprising if by Sunday Hawaii is the only unbeaten team left in major college football and the national championship race has undergone an extreme makeover. Six games matching ranked teams will be played this weekend, starting Thursday night when No. 2 Boston College plays at No. 8 Virginia Tech.

➜ **NO. 1 OHIO STATE** (minus 4) at **NO. 24 PENN STATE.** Buckeyes have won 18 straight in Big Ten since losing to Lions in '05 ... **OHIO STATE, 24-13.**

➜ **NO. 9 SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA** (plus 3) at **NO. 5 OREGON.** USC is third in the nation in total defense; Ducks are second in total offense ... **USC, 27-24.**

➜ **NO. 6 WEST VIRGINIA** (minus 6) at **NO. 25 RUTGERS.** Mountaineers have won 12 straight against Scarlet Knights ... **WEST VIRGINIA, 38-27.**



AP

Ohio State's Jim Tressel and Penn State's Joe Paterno face off Saturday.

➜ **NO. 18 CALIFORNIA** (plus 3) at **NO. 7 ARIZONA STATE.** Golden Bears haven't lost three straight since 2001 ... **CAL, 28-24.**

➜ **NO. 9 FLORIDA** (minus 9) vs. **NO. 20 GEORGIA** at Jacksonville, Fla. Gators have won 15 of last 17 meetings ... **FLORIDA, 30-23.** RALPH RUSSO (AP)

Late game: The Virginia Tech-BC game ended after Express' deadline. For results | **Today's Post, Sports**

Fans Tune Out in Opening Blowout

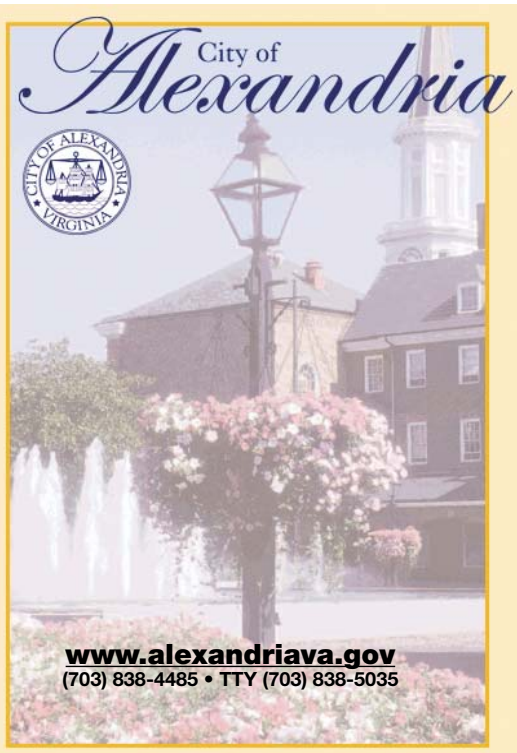
WORLD SERIES | A blowout in Game 1 of the World Series had viewers tuning out as the night went on and the Boston Red Sox pulled away from the Colorado Rockies.

Boston's 13-1 win over Colorado on Wednesday drew a 10.5 fast national rating on Fox, up 31 percent from the record-low 8.0 for last year's Game 1.

Baseball tweaked its postseason schedule this year to increase the number of World Series games played on nights when fans are more likely to be in front of the television.

The game earned an 11.2 rating at the start, slightly higher than for the first pit. The rating grew to a 12.5 at 9 p.m., but had plummeted to an 8.1 two hours later after the Red Sox scored seven runs in the fifth inning.

Late game: Game 2 of the World Series ended after Express' deadline. For result s | **Today's Post, Sports**



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PRINCIPAL PLANNER (2)
PROBATION OFFICER
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PUBLIC INFORMATION SPECIALIST
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RECREATION LEADER II (PT 20 HRS)
RECREATION LEADER II (PT 24 HRS)
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RECREATION LEADER III (PT 12 HRS) (2)
RECREATION LEADER III (PT 20 HRS)
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REGISTERED NURSE
RETIREMENT SPECIALIST
SENIOR PROJECT MANAGER (DIVISION CHIEF/CAPITAL PROJECTS)
SITE PLAN REVIEW ENGINEER (CIVIL ENGINEER IV)
SUPERVISOR FIRE PERSONNEL
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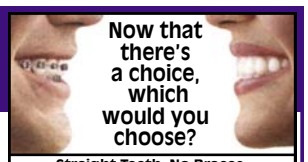

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TONI L. SANDYS/TWP

Keon Lattimore scores vs. Virginia — a game when the Terps lost another lineman.

Tough Losses For the Terps

Can a depleted O-line open holes for UMd.'s stellar pair of backs?

TERPS FOOTBALL | Keon Lattimore scored first, and when he reached the sideline, he found No. 44 and they exchanged high fives and man hugs. It wasn't long before Lance Ball found the end zone himself and the scene was replayed. Early in Saturday night's game, all was right in the Maryland Terrapins' world.

Lattimore leads and Ball follows, or maybe vice versa. Maryland's senior running backs, roommates off the field, push each other constantly to further achievement. "It's really a special relationship because a lot of people ask us time and time again, 'Why don't you fight about this? Why do you get along so well?'" Lattimore said. "I thrive off of his success, and he thrives off of mine."

And when Lattimore and Ball have thrived, so have the Terrapins (4-3, 1-2 in the Atlantic Coast Conference). Of Maryland's 22 touchdowns, coach Ralph Friedgen can thank his seniors for 17 — nine from Lattimore, eight from Ball.

Of course, sometimes it turns out that things aren't right with the world. Lattimore and Ball and Friedgen got that lesson in last weekend's loss to Virginia. The Terrapins' offensive line, weakened two weeks earlier by the loss of left guard Andrew Crummey to a broken leg, took another hit. Right guard Jaimie Thomas was lost for the season — also to a broken leg. Now the questions remains: Do the Terps have the depth to open holes and score points on Clemson this week or on North Carolina, Boston College, Florida State and N.C. State in the critical weeks that follow?

Sophomore Phil Costa and junior Jack Griffin are filling the vacant guard spots. If Lattimore and Ball are to repeat their earlier celebrations, they'll have replacement linemen to thank. "It comes with the territory when you play football. You get injuries," Lattimore said. "I have 100 percent confidence that these guys, they can step in and get it done." DEREK TURNER

Three Burning QUESTIONS

1 **Will Friedgen make a snap decision?** Quarterback Chris Turner performed beyond expectations when Jordan Steffy went out with a concussion Sept. 29. Steffy may be ready to play this week. Friedgen could work both into the game plan.

2 **What about Clemson's two running backs?** James Davis and C.J. Spiller have combined for 851 rushing yards and 244 receiving yards.

3 **Will Maryland's defense play two halves?** In all three of the Terrapins' losses this season, their defense has weakened as they game went on.

Crystal Ball

With the summer's referee gambling scandal a part of the past (we hope), the NBA season tips off next week. Here are five key story lines. (EXPRESS)

BRIAN BABINEAU/GETTY IMAGES

Celtic Pride

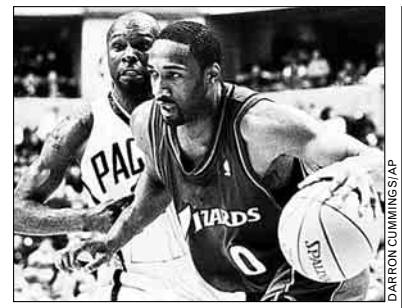
Not since Larry Bird, Kevin McHale and Robert Parish were winning championships in the Boston Garden have the Celtics drummed up this much interest. Boston gave up on the future and went for a title now by adding All-Stars Kevin Garnett and Ray Allen to long-suffering Celtic Paul Pierce. Some say Boston is headed back to the finals. Others say the Celtics have no depth. Maybe both groups are right.

Kobe's Beef

If it's Hollywood, then there must be drama. And if its the Lakers, Kobe Bryant must be in the middle of it. On the court, there is no one better. Off the court, Bryant's trade demands have grown tiresome. There's a chance he may not be in L.A. before the season starts, but expect trade winds to really flare up before February's deadline. What's the league's best player worth?

Sonic Boom

The only noteworthy aspect of Seattle recently are the rumors that the team is moving. If that's true, the city might want to TiVo "Grey's Anatomy" this season and catch a young, exciting team featuring Kevin Durant and ex-Georgetown star Jeff Green. Just remember, Sonics fans: Meredith and McDreamy will be waiting for you in 2008; Durant and Green may not be.



DARRON CUMMINGS/AP

Armed to the Gils

This could be the year the Wizards return to the NBA Finals. If not for "the curse of Les Boulez," Washington could very easily have been the team swept by San Antonio last season. Caron Butler and Antawn Jamison are healthy, and Gilbert Arenas looks to be getting there. Add a nice mix of young, emerging players and the Wizards have one of the best rosters in the East. Can they stay healthy?

Remember the Alamo

Another season is upon us, and, once again, the San Antonio Spurs are the talk of no one — and that's just how they like it. The defending champions could be even better than last year's squad, assuming Tony Parker hasn't used up all his energy with his "Desperate Housewife," Eva Longoria. It's true that the Spurs usually win titles every other year, but you can't count them out.

Swengali

REDSKINS | BY MATT SWENSON

Redskins Have Nothing to Lose

REDSKINS FANS SHOULD kick up their feet, relax and enjoy Sunday's game.

Say goodbye to any angst-ridden fourth quarters that have been far too common this year. No need to worry about any blown second-half leads this week.

Indeed, this should be as stress-free a weekend as you will find in this city in the fall — not counting the bye week, of course.

The Redskins face no expectations at all when they play the vaunted New England Patriots. Coach Joe Gibbs, in vintage form, proclaimed Washington "the biggest underdog in the history of sports."

Only Sonny Jurgensen is going to pick the Redskins to win.

Hyperbole aside, only the homer-to-end-all-homers Sonny Jurgensen is going to pick the Redskins to win this week, let alone cover the spread.

Analyzing Washington's stagnant offense, it can be easy to forget that the team's defense is championship-caliber. It certainly is the toughest group the Patriots have faced all year.

It wouldn't even surprise me to see the Redskins score first Sunday. You might even see an early sack, interception or, if we're really lucky, one of Tom Brady's famous "tucks."

Washington has nothing to lose and will probably like it. A good showing is a moral victory to most Washingtonians.

The problem is the Patriots are just loaded with talent. The Redskins could play well and still lose by 21. But it could be worse. We could be forced to watch a repeat of last Sunday's agonizing win over the Cardinals.

@ To reach Matt Swenson, e-mail matt.swenson@readexpress.com

Capitals Don't Lose Their Focus

Better, more seasoned team no longer settles for moral victories

CAPITALS | One might think that the injection of veteran, playoff-tested leadership and a more talented, seasoned core might make enduring a four-game losing streak a bit easier.

Not so, according to Washington Capitals captain Chris Clark, who said following his club's 5-3 win over Tampa Bay on Wednesday that defeat now leaves a more bitter taste than it has in the past.

"We want to win. We have a chance to win every game. It's our two points to win every game because we have that type of team this year, so I think it hits us a little bit harder when we lose," he said.

With Alexander Semin back on the ice and Clark returned to the first line with former partner Alex Ovechkin, the Caps (4-4-0) can get back over .500 with a victory over visiting Vancouver (4-6-0) Friday.

Following a few frustrating outings during which the Caps fought to score, the reunited linemates combined for three goals and two assists on Wednesday. The power play still struggled, going 0-for-4 and yielding a shorthanded goal in the second period, but ending the four-game slide was the most important thing for a team still learning how to win.

HARAZN. GHANBARI/AP

With Alex Semin back, the Capitals snapped a four-game losing streak.

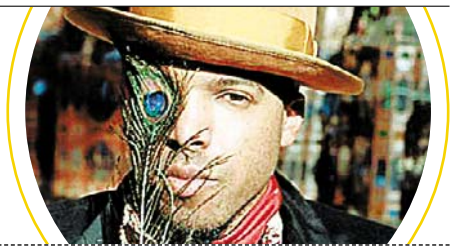
"The whole thought process for us here ... and we talked with Chris Clark long and hard, [is that] we're not accepting playing well. We want wins," coach Glen Hanlon said. "We didn't want the team to lose faith in where we're going and what we're doing, that there were some real good things. ... You're not going to play 82 games without handling some adversity."

Hanlon would not promise that Clark and Ovechkin would stay on the same line, but Semin's return and Clark's promotion now give the Caps two formidable scoring lines.

BRIAN STRAUS

Entertainment Weekend

SOUL-ROCK-JAZZ
Genre-defying: Van Hunt's sound screams refusal to be pigeonholed. Come try to label it yourself at the Black Cat on Sunday night. | 21



MERIE W. WALLACE/TOUCHSTONE PICTURES

LOVE TRIANGLE: Steve Carell, left, lusts after the girlfriend of his brother (played by Dane Cook, right) in "Dan in Real Life."

Fantasy, Please

Steve Carell's new flick makes 'Real Life' look cloying and dull

FILM | If you're already groaning at the prospect of spending time with your own lovable but annoying family over the holidays, think twice about seeing "Dan in Real Life." Do you really want to donate time and money to hang with someone else's annoying relations?

A love-triangle romance that plays out among Steve Carell, Juliette Binoche and Dane Cook during a family reunion, "Dan in Real Life" is a surprisingly plain, sappy, even insipid comedy, considering the filmmaker behind it.

After years as a novelist and screenwriter, director and co-writer Peter Hedges made a wonderful film debut with another family-reunion tale, 2003's indie charmer "Pieces of April."

That film chronicled the icy history of a black-sheep daughter trying to make amends with her unforgiving clan over Thanksgiving. Those people were truly messed up and beset by adversity, yet they were utterly endearing and genuine.

The gang in "Dan in Real Life," which Hedges worked up from an original screenplay by Pierce Gardner, are fairly well-balanced and warmly affectionate among one another. And they are boring to the point of aggravation.

Carell's Dan is a widowed advice-column writer raising three daughters. Four years after his wife's death, Dan's at a solid if lonely state of resignation, devoted to raising his daughters and not even dreaming of new love.

That changes as he and the girls head to the family homestead in Rhode Island, where Dan's parents (Dianne Wiest and John Mahoney) are playing host to their big clan of kids and grandkids.

At a bookstore, Dan's sense of romance is magically rekindled by an encounter with Marie (Binoche). The two hit it off immediately, but she turns out to be the new girlfriend of his brother Mitch (Cook), a nice lunkhead who clearly isn't as suited for Marie as Dan.

"Dan in Real Life" gets a bit of a toe-tapping boost from a blithe soundtrack of songs by Sondre Lerche, whose musical interludes are welcome respites from the monotony of everything else.

Just when the movie is supposedly reaching a dramatic climax, it slides to its low point as Ma, Pa, grown-up kids and all the anonymous cousins stage a talent show that just goes on and on in nauseating banality.

DAVID GERMAIN (AP)

A Good, Naughty Bit of Fun

Verbal sparring and sexual intrigue are the stars of 'Sleuth'

FILM | In the 1972 film " Sleuth," a hammy chamber piece based on a play by Anthony Shaffer, a young hairdresser named Milo Tindle (Michael Caine) arrives at the costume- and prop-stuffed manse of aging crime novelist Andrew Wyke (played with cuckoo brio by Laurence Olivier), who greets him as "the man who wants to marry my wife." In the remake, Jude Law plays Tindle, and Caine, who plays Wyke, greets him as "the man who's ... my wife." Tindle chokes on his Scotch but the gleam in his eye could light a stadium. "She's ... me," he replies, with the mock disingenuousness of a smart-alecky fifth-grader. In this battle royal between sex and money, there's no trace of the initial decorum of the original.

Directed by Kenneth Branagh from an updated script by Harold Pinter, the theatrics have been considerably toned down, and the action unfolds in a cooler, darker, more slinkily malevolent place — namely, the concrete-and-laser-beam atrocity that is Wyke's country house.

"Sleuth" has a tendency to let its theatrical underpinnings show. Still, the verbal sparring is so sharp it's a wonder nobody loses an eye. It's a pleasure to observe Caine and Law attack it with such ferocity.

CARINA CHOCANO (LOS ANGELES TIMES)

DAVID APPLEBY

Jude Law stars as Milo Tindle in Kenneth Branagh's remake of "Sleuth."

Got Plans?

FOR COMPLETE WEEKEND LISTINGS SEE WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT

I'll be in D.C. this weekend and I want to go to the theater. It doesn't look like there's much playing right now. What should I get tickets for?
See "The Taming of the Shrew" at the Shakespeare Theatre. Another idea is "Women of Brewster Place" at Arena Stage.

➜ *The Shakespeare Theatre, 450 7th St. NW; through Nov. 18, $23.50-$79.75; 202-527-1122. (Gallery Place-Chinatown)*

➜ *Arena Stage, 1101 6th St. SW; through Dec. 19, $66-$71; 202-488-3300. (Waterfront-SEU)*

SCOTT SCHUMAN/WP

Christopher Innvar and Charlayne Woodard in "The Taming of the Shrew."

A group of friends wants to take a wine newbie out for her first tasting. Suggestions?
The wine tasting happy hour at Vidalia is led by sommelier Doug Mohr or one of his capable assistants. Afterward, the bar has a fantastic selection of wines by the glass and some really great snacks. Also, I really like Veritas. The flights are accessible but educational, and the bartenders seem to know what they're talking about.

➜ *Vidalia, 1990 M St. NW; 202-659-1990. (Dupont Circle)*

➜ *Veritas, 2031 Florida Ave. NW; 202-265-6270. (Dupont Circle)*

The Going Out Gurus think you should get out more. Join the discussion Thursdays at 1 p.m. | **washingtonpost.com/liveonline**

Nightlife Agenda

WHAT DO YOU WANT TO DO TONIGHT? BY FRITZ HAHN, RHOME ANDERSON AND DAVID MALITZ

AP

SUAVE: The new Carlyle Club is using Rat Pack wannabes to christen the place.

FRIDAY

As nightlife aficionados, we mourned the passing of Joey Bishop, the last surviving member of the Rat Pack. You can remember him (and Frank and Dean and Sammy) this weekend at the brand-new **CARLYLE CLUB**, which is bringing a team of Rat Pack impersonators from Las Vegas to inaugurate the joint. There are two ways to see the show: Arrive early for dinner at the supper club, which costs $85 and includes admission to the 7:30 p.m. performance, or catch the late show, which begins at 10 p.m. and costs $35.

DJ Carl Cox was on the forefront of the acid house movement in the mid to late-'80s, garnering attention for his edgy remixes as well as his penchant for playing on three turntables at once. Having refashioned himself as a techno and Chicago house turntablist, Cox continues to play at the world's biggest clubs and has been popular with crowds at **BUZZ** (and Cubik) for years. Tonight's Buzz appearance also features drum 'n' bass DJs Breakage and Ransom, along with DJs Nemo (techno) and Nysus (mashups). Of course, this is also Buzz's annual Halloween costume contest, which sees some of the most outlandish and eye-catching getups in the area. If you've got a flamboyant outfit, this is the time to show it off: $500 in cash prizes go to the winners.

SATURDAY

Since the 31st falls on a Wednesday, Saturday's the big night for Halloween parties. Rather than recap everything that's going on, here are a few highlights:

Young professionals organizations Things to Do D.C. and Professionals in the City are hosting dueling bashes (at **THE HARD ROCK CAFE** and **GRAND CENTRAL**, respectively) with similar themes: salsa lessons, costume contests, DJs and dancing, vampire hosts. Both also have the same grand prize: A trip to Iceland, courtesy of Iceland Airways, so make sure your costume is top-notch.

The annual **NIGHTMARE ON M STREET BAR CRAWL** features $2 and $3 beers at 13 different downtown bars, plus a midnight costume contest with $500 in prizes. Register at Rumors or the Front Page, then wander to any bar you choose: Singapore Bistro, Porter's, Ozio, McFadden's, Five, Black Rooster Pub, Madhatter, Penang, Recessions, James Hoban's or Overtime Cafe. (Hint: This crawl tends to attract thousands of participants, so the best ways to get your money's worth are to go early or to pick some of the lesser-known places, like Overtime Cafe or James Hoban's.)

We can't resist the D.C. Zombie Lurch, which starts with costumed zombies dancing to "Thriller" at the **WASHINGTON MONUMENT** — seriously — and then bar crawling in full gore-covered regalia to Club Midnight at the Meeting Place, where there's a costume contest and dancing.

The **CLARENDON BALLROOM'S** annual Monster Bash blowout is one of the most packed events in town, with Dewey favorites Mr. Greengenes and resident DJ Pat Premier. The costume contest includes several hundred dollars in prizes for the best and "most original" outfits. Get there early or you might be forced to wait in line outside.

NATHANIEL GOLDBERG

Van Hunt blends soul with a lil' rock 'n' roll on Sunday night at the Black Cat.

DJ Herve, who spins at the Alliance Francaise's parties, has organized an Angels and Demons party at **TABAQ**, with "internationals '80s and '90s music." His past Halloween events have drawn a well-dressed European crowd. Want something simpler? **MY BROTHER'S PLACE** has a $10 cover, $2 beers and $4 rum drinks all night, and the winner of the costume contest gets a happy hour for 10 friends, which includes an open bar. How can you beat that?

SUNDAY

Van Hunt is often compared to Prince, but he's more likely to cite Sly Stone, Fela Kuti and George Benson as primary influences. The first one seems particularly fitting, since Sly merged soul and rock in a way that no one before him had conceived of, and now Van Hunt creates new music comfortably in that niche. Go on and add Curtis Mayfield in there for good measure, since you can hear him in the falsetto and guitar work on Van Hunt's ballads. These influences are synthesized rather than aped, and the end result can't be neatly boxed up. That explains why he's ended up at Blue Note of all places after his run of albums on Capitol. You can get familiar with "Popular," Van Hunt's forthcoming release on that venerable jazz label, at **THE BLACK CAT** on Sunday night.

An extended version of "Nightlife Agenda" is always available at **www.washingtonpost.com/cityguide**

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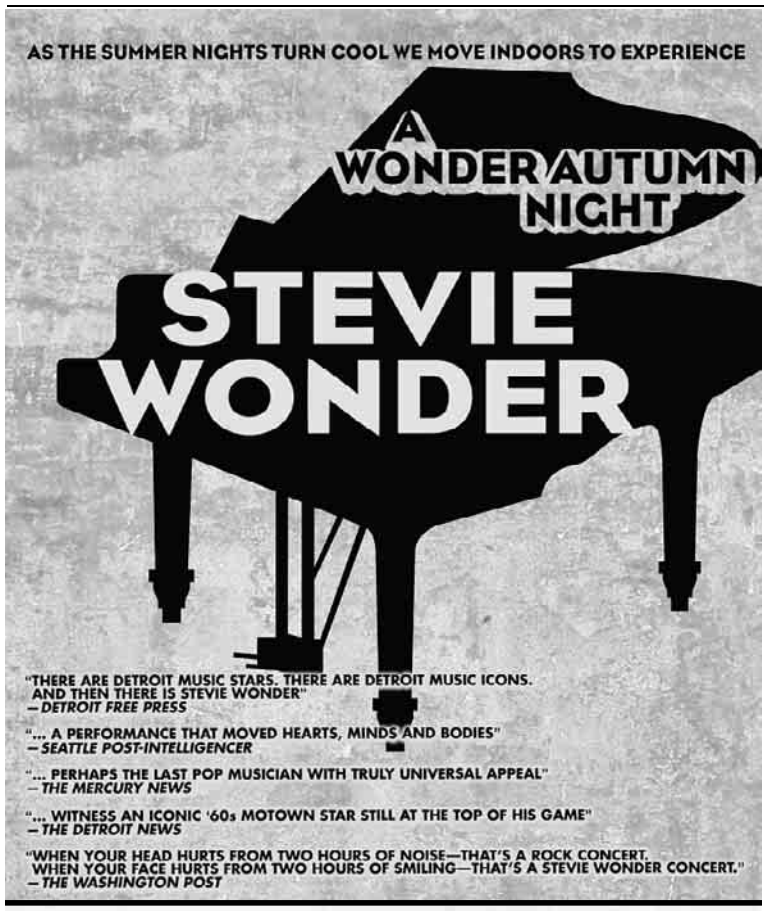

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Now Playing

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (PG-13, 133 minutes) In this movie, Julie Taymor — the creative genius behind Broadway's "The Lion King," the visionary director of "Frida" and "Titus" — has shoehorned, contorted and otherwise bullied some of the Beatles' greatest hits into a vapid Hollywood musical; it's the kind of project that must have looked great on paper, but on-screen, not so much. Evan Rachel Wood plays Lucy, an innocent high school kid in the early 1960s; Jim Sturgess plays Jude, a Liverpool lad who has just arrived in America and has befriended Lucy's brother, Max (Joe Anderson). They three friends wind up in Greenwich Village at the height of the era's cultural and political upheaval, occasionally breaking into song. (AH)

THE ASSASSINATION OF JESSE JAMES BY THE COWARD ROBERT FORD (R, 160 minutes) This film opens late in Jesse's days as he prepares for a big train job. The Jesse we find lounging in the thin Missouri woods has, like many a gunman, good or bad, in his dotage (he's a weary 34!) become extremely paranoid. As this old and twisted Jesse, Brad Pitt is quite good, even if it seems more like a selection of ticks and mannerisms than a performance. But the movie really belongs to Casey Affleck as Robert Ford. Affleck has a gift for playing mealy mouthed marginals. It turns out Bob is sort of a groupie, a Jesse worshiper. But like any star-worshiper, he learns his idol is human and that he can never become such a man; this inevitably turns such a fellow against his god, and so it is Bob begins secret negotiations with the authorities to bring down the big guy. That's when the film is at its best, that last slide toward the fatal shot before which, for a time, Jesse and Bob try to read each other's minds and figure out what the other knows. (SH)

THE COMEBACKS (PG-13, 84 minutes) Between the "Scary Movie" comedies and the "Hot Shots" parodies, what movie genre or subgenre is not left to spoof? Why, the cheesy sports movie! And a ripe one for mockery it is, with those cliched melodramas about down-and-out coaches, triumphant half-time locker room speeches and the even-athletes-must-hit-the-books moral message. But this comedy, starring David Koechner as the morally oblivious coach who takes over the Comebacks, a Texas college team of misfits based on those "Friday Night Lights"-type movies, isn't the one to do it. The creative team behind the camera, including director Tom Brady, is light on experience, and it shows. Even a blind pig can find an acorn, so every once in a while there's a chuckle. But most of the time, we are watching a sorry comedic team making fun of a sorry football one. (DT)

GEORGE KRAYCHYK

WHAT A DOLL! Ryan Gosling stars as a man who falls deperately in love with Bianca, a life-size doll, in "Lars and the Real Girl."

THE DARJEELING LIMITED (R, 91 minutes) Writer-director Wes Anderson has carved out a niche as American cinema's most eccentric, lyrical poet of family dysfunction. He's at it again in this film about three brothers searching for spiritual meaning in India. Jason Schwartzman, Adrien Brody and Owen Wilson play Jack, Peter and Francis Whitman, respectively, who haven't seen one another since their father's funeral a year earlier. Francis has organized a train trip through India to rebond. Against the extravagant backdrop of India's deeply saturated palette and densely woven textures, the Whitmans try to find themselves — and one another — in a series of alternately wry and wrenching encounters. The movie isn't deep; its fey humor and obvious metaphors will surely provide ample fodder for Anderson's detractors. But it has its charms, chief of which is watching three terrific actors evince with unforced ease the rewards and resentments of brotherhood. (AH)

ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13, 114 minutes) This sequel overdresses and ultimately abandons what drew us to its 1998 predecessor in the first place: an intimate embrace with history. We are left choking in the billows and folds of Queen Elizabeth I's fabulous finery without a single insight into the woman among them, let alone the most celebrated period in English history. Where "Elizabeth" powerfully evoked the interior struggle of a woman (Cate Blanchett) determined to save herself and England from the shackles of Catholic rule, this film externalizes her maturation into the country's most beloved monarch. It seems Elizabeth's reign wasn't so much about resolving matters of the heart (she has a quasi-romance with Sir Walter Raleigh, played by Clive Owen), maintaining the love of her people, dealing with her scheming cousin Mary Queen of Scots and defeating the Spanish Armada, so much as wearing the right costume for the right event. (DT)

THE GAME PLAN (PG, 110 minutes) This movie, featuring Dwayne "The Rock" Johnson as star quarterback Joe Kingman, follows familiar formulas and characters but is brightened by a bit of wit and good performances. Kingman has such a swollen ego that he tries to be a one-man team. He has turned his ultra-cool bachelor pad into a shrine to himself and the other King, Elvis. Then, just as his team is entering the playoffs, 8-year-old Peyton Kelly (Madison Pettis) arrives on his doorstep, claiming to be the daughter he never knew he had. Will Joe learn to be a team player and a good dad? Will his bulldog wind up in a pink tutu? The story includes one or two too many life lessons, but the Rock and Pettis work well together, and it turns out he can actually deliver a sweet version of "Are You Lonesome Tonight?" (MM)

GONE BABY GONE (R, 120 minutes) One of the great pleasures of mystery writer Dennis Lehane and of the movies derived from his books — "Mystic River" and now this film — is sense of place. The books are like a tour of back-alley, blue-collar Beantown; spend time with them in any form and you start swallowing your R's, then spitting them out as H's. That's what makes this movie, directed by Ben Affleck, such a pleasure. Two detectives, Patrick Kenzie (Ben Affleck's gifted younger brother, Casey) and Angie Gennaro (Michelle Monaghan), are brought in on a case that has the neighborhood and the cops tied up in knots. A beautiful child is missing, and immediately a generally unasked question arises: Do the social marginals deserve the same protection and service from the cops that more respectable, bourgeois citizens do? The movie is really Casey Affleck's, but the real star is Boston's seamier side, vividly evoked. (SH)

THE HEARTBREAK KID (R, 116 minutes) In this highly respun remake of Elaine May's 1972 comedy, Eddie Cantrow (Ben Stiller) is on his honeymoon in Mexico with Lila (Malin Akerman) when he realizes he has made a terrible mistake. Lila is too much of everything, from her enthusiasm for Olympian sex to her almost limitless klutziness and stupidity. Essentially, Bobby and Peter Farrelly use the source material as a launching point for their own brand of R-rated — make that very R-rated — low jinks. You

Continued on page 24

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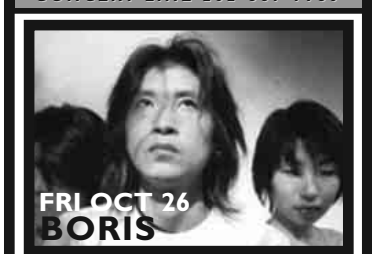
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Weekend | Entertainment

Now Playing

Continued from page 23

don't walk into the Farrellys' movies looking for subtlety, poignancy and all those things French movie characters do. But you can expect to fall about, snort and hoot, at times hard enough to hurt inner body parts that only doctors can identify. What makes this funnier than mere crafted crudity is the way they stretch to the breaking point the familiarities, taboos and embarrassing situations of life. We are as horrified, mortified and shocked as we are amused. (DT)

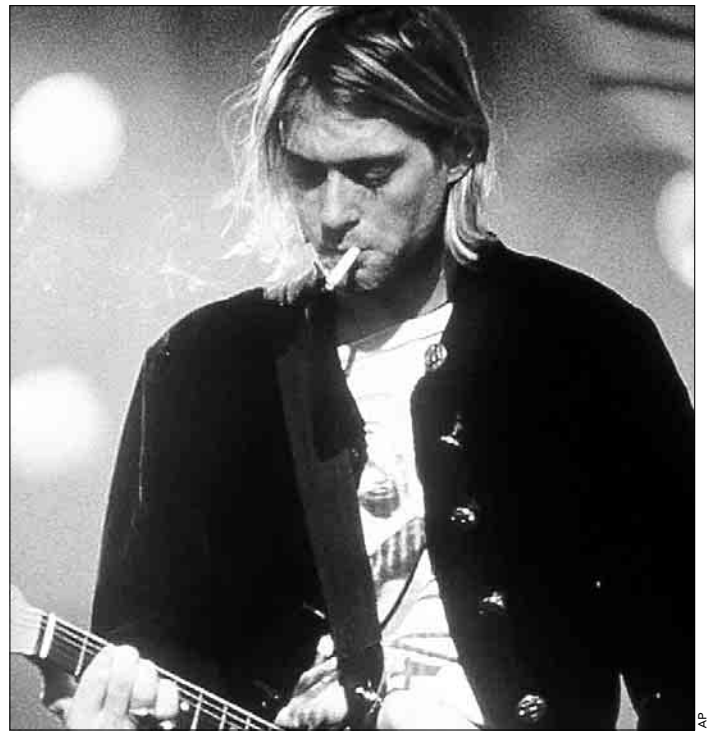
INTO THE WILD (R, 140 minutes) Sean Penn sings a powerful and poetic hymn to America with his sweeping, sensitive and deeply affecting adaptation of Jon Krakauer's best-selling book. Penn, who wrote and directed the screen version, has preserved the book's most iconic, even mystical, values while carefully whittling away Krakauer's multi-layered narrative to focus on its confounding protagonist: Chris McCandless, the 23-year-old who embarked on a 113-day sojourn in the Alaska backcountry that ended in his death. Emile Hirsch plays McCandless, putting himself through the kind of punishing physical challenges and transformations Robert De Niro has made famous. The film is far more than the story of an idealistic, doomed young man and instead turns into a portrait of an alternative America, that scruffy, feisty frontier populated by outlaws and vagabonds and spiritual seekers. It's a big, beautiful picture, all the more so for inviting everyone, regardless of political position or philosophical bent, to see themselves. (AH)

THE JANE AUSTEN BOOK CLUB (PG-13, 106 minutes) Based on Karen Joy Fowler's novel of the same title, this movie follows five women (and a man one of them drags along) as they make their way through Jane Austen's six novels, their own lives taking on resemblances to the author's heady plots. Kathy Baker, Amy Brenneman and Maggie Grace are each terrific in their respective roles, but it's Maria Bello and Emily Blunt who steal the show. Everyone is given their due and dignity in this funny, sexy, humanist film that, if it is a chick flick, gives the genre a good name. (AH)

KING CORN (Unrated, 88 minutes) This film pulls the husk off the scandal of modern food production, specifically the industrialized, subsidized, largely mythologized world of American farming. This lively, engaging and visually arresting documentary follows Yale graduates Ian Cheney and Curt Ellis as they visit an isotope lab, where a technician informs them that a carbon analysis of their hair indicates they're "corn-based." From there, the team travels from Boston to Iowa, where they intend to lease a plot of farmland to find out "how an acre of corn could get from a field in Iowa to our hair." Directed with vigor and high visual style by Aaron Woolf, this film should be required viewing by anyone planning to visit a supermarket, fast-food joint or their own refrigerator. Funny, wise and sad, it suggests that being well-fed has nothing to do with being well-nourished. (AH)

THE KINGDOM (R, 111 minutes) One electrifying performance becomes the only saving grace of this goofy action movie that tries to marry the blitzkrieg entertainment of "Rambo" to the cultural consciousness of "Syriana." That acting turn comes from Middle Eastern actor Ashraf Barhom, who plays a sympathetic Saudi Arabian police officer caught between two incompatible cultures. When a terrorist bombing takes the lives of 200 American oil workers, their families and Saudi locals at an American compound in his country, he is forced to babysit four American FBI agents — played by Jamie Foxx, Jennifer Garner, Chris Cooper and Jason Bateman — who have come over to investigate. As Col. Faris Al Ghazi (Barhom) and the Americans chafe in their observational corners, they hit upon a plan to outwit the royals and take charge of the case. Barhom, as Faris, is 100 percent seduction, but what reaches us most powerfully is his spiritual intensity, as he negotiates a politically impossible situation — and one nutty film. (DT)

Continued on page 26



AP

CULT FLICK

Smells Like an Icon

A DOZEN YEARS AFTER HIS SUICIDE, Kurt Cobain remains a fascinating figure. Filmmaker AJ Schnack is the latest to weigh in with the collage-like nonfiction work "Kurt Cobain About a Son." In no way an introduction to Cobain or the definitive word on the iconoclastic artist, the film likely will appeal to the type of completist who covets alternative takes of previously released songs or collections of obscure B-sides. Culled from 25 hours of audio interviews with Cobain conducted in 1993 by journalist Michael Azerrad for his book "Come as You Are: The Story of Nirvana," Schnack matches the self-reflective, often contradictory words of the late musician to vibrant, 35-millimeter images created by director of photography Wyatt Troll and stark black-and-white performance stills by photographer Charles Peterson. KEVIN CRUST (LOS ANGELES TIMES)

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Weekend | Entertainment

Now Playing

Continued from page 24

LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG-13, 106 minutes) Ryan Gosling plays Lars, a misfit in his mid-20s who lives in the garage of his childhood home. Lars's brother Gus (Paul Schneider) and his wife live in the main house, and despite repeated invitations to join them for meals, Lars keeps obstinately to himself. He clearly has issues, which finally bubble to the surface when he orders a life-size sex toy over the Internet, names her Bianca and presents her to everyone as his new girlfriend. As Lars quietly comes to the psychic break — or breakthrough — that has been looming, his family, friends and neighbors seem to embody the notion of the compassionate response, going along with the narrative he's inventing as if in recognition that love means indulging one another's most necessary illusions. Of course, the real key is Gosling. His performance is a small miracle, not only because he's so completely open as a man who's essentially shut off, but because he changes and grows so imperceptibly before our eyes. (AH)

LUST, CAUTION (NC-17, 158 minutes) This film by director Ang Lee is set in Japanese-occupied Shanghai of the 1940s. Mr. Yee (Tony Leung) is the debonair but ruthless head of security for the collaborative Chinese government, and Wong Chia Chi (Tang Wei) is a revolutionary student who has drawn the short straw in her circle to seduce and lure him into a deadly trap. Their illicit romance becomes the central focus of this powerfully uncompromising film, which operates on the same principle that distinguishes all lasting romances. It isn't just the allure of love, or the celebrities in the cast or the physical attributes of the performers that ultimately compels audiences. It's what they're up against as they pursue that love. In a world where survival overrides all other virtues, their perverse attraction becomes a sort of mutual moral compass — the ultimate union that any love is about. (DT)

CLAIRE FOLGER/MIRAMAX FILMS

BROTHER ACT: Ben Affleck directed "Gone Baby Gone" starring Casey Affleck, above.

MEETING RESISTANCE (Unrated, 84 minutes) Although at times tedious and repetitive, this film is nonetheless an important journalistic document about the Iraqi insurgency: its roots, motivations and methods. Two daring photojournalists-turned-filmmakers, Steve Connors and Molly Bingham, shed light on the enemy through often-chilling interviews with several anonymous Iraqis (and one Syrian) who have taken up the anti-American cause for religious, nationalist and purely personal reasons. Of all the miscalculations U.S. leaders have made about Iraq, this documentary underscores perhaps the most significant: They underestimated the obdurate strength of Iraqi pride and patriotism. As long as you dare to occupy our country, these voices say, we will fight you — to the death. RICH LEIBY

MICHAEL CLAYTON (R, 119 minutes) From its hushed opening sequences in a Manhattan law office late at night to its sleek, pared-down narrative style, this uncommonly intelligent thriller evokes the great films of the 1970s that managed to elicit gritty urban realism while maintaining a suave sense of style and moral complexity. George Clooney plays the title character, a "fixer" at a white shoe law firm, who finds himself enmeshed in a web of corporate intrigue, personal financial straits, madness and murder. Clooney does his best to suppress his blinding wattage, the better for his superb supporting cast to shine: Tilda Swinton is mesmerizing as the personification of female ambition and ambivalence; Sydney Pollack utterly inhabits Clayton's ethically slippery boss; and Tom Wilkinson delivers note-perfect spoken arias of a manic-depressive who has gone off his meds. The movie marks a return to the screen of intelligence, taste and class. Hallelujah, and hire the babysitter: It's grown-up time again at the movies. (AH)

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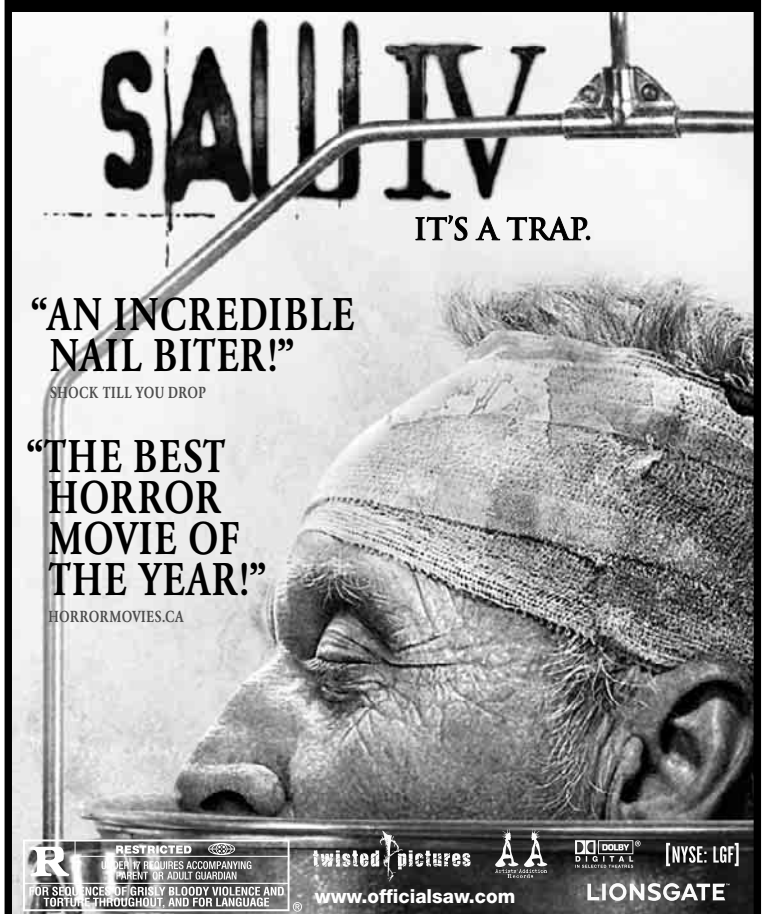

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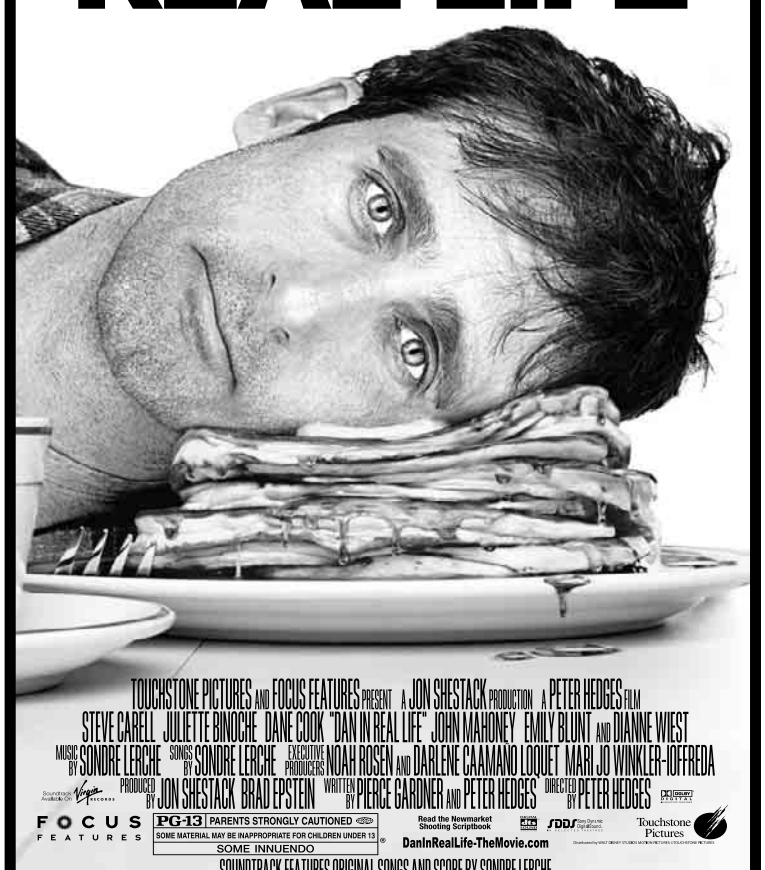

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Now Playing

THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS (PG, 86 minutes) As All Hallow's Eve approaches, Disney presents the perfect way to ramp up the anticipation. You guessed it: by visiting Jack Skellington and his creepy crew in Halloween town. Tim Burton's 1993 Academy Award-nominated film is back on the big screen for the season of spook. And even better, this time around, it's in 3 devilish dimensions. Directed by Henry Selick, this animated favorite chronicles the adventures of the lovable, skeletal Jack as he and his ghost dog Zero wander gloomily through their hometown of cobwebs and ghouls, wondering if there is more to life (death?) than Halloween. When he finds a doorway that leads him to Christmas town, Jack discovers a culture of sugar plums and carolers that leaves him jealously dissatisfied. What ensues is a love story, a Santa Claus kidnapping and impersonation, spontaneous singing and chubby demons grasping candy canes. KARMAH ELMUSA

RENDITION (R, 120 minutes) Billed as a ripped-from-the-headlines thriller, this film is actually another sluggish, by-the-numbers procedural, given a frisson or two by its debt to current events. As the film opens, a bomb goes off in a town square in an unidentified North African country; a U.S. CIA operative is killed, and his underling, an inexperienced analyst played by Jake Gyllenhaal, heads up the ensuing investigation. Meanwhile, Egyptian-born Anwar el-Ibrahimi (Omar Metwally), on his way back home to Chicago from South Africa, is detained at Dulles International Airport, then put on a plane to the aforementioned North African country for some gloves-off interrogation about his possible role in the bombing. It would have been interesting had the film engaged its nominal issues with real sophistication and urgency; instead, it is content to use them as a backdrop for a flabby story of too many subplots and too few subtleties. (AH)

THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R, 120 minutes) Audrey Burke (played brilliantly by Halle Berry) seems to have it all: Her husband, Brian (David Duchovny), is a successful Seattle developer, and they live in a big house with two beautiful kids. It all ends when the police arrive with the news that Brian has been murdered. As preparations for a funeral ensue, Audrey discovers that Brian had a secret "best friend," a down-and-out lawyer now living on skid row. She sends her brother to pick up Jerry Sunborne (Benicio Del Toro), a twitchy, tormented user. The movie chronicles how all the traumatized survivors of Brian's death cope by inserting Jerry in Brian's place. In fact, the movie could be called "Let's All Help Jerry." Am I the only one who thinks, "You know, I don't really give a damn about Jerry"? Del Toro will probably get an Oscar nod for his Jerry, but I never believed a second of it. (SH)

30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R, 108 minutes) This is the kind of gruesome but entertaining survival guide you pray you never have to follow: how to stop vampires killing you during the darkest days of Alaskan winter. Hey, it could happen. It certainly does in Barrow, Alaska, where vampires come to terrorize the isolated town, as seasonal darkness descends for a loooong month. From a safe distance — in our own pocket of darkness, as it were — it's a visceral kick to watch as a group of ever-dwindling survivors, led by young, resolute Sheriff Eben (Josh Hartnett), figures out how to

Continued on page 28

SAM EMERSON/AP

THE DEVIL WEARS BUSINESS ATTIRE: Meryl Streep, left, as a merciless government official, with Alan Arkin, right, in "Rendition."

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Continued from page 27

outlast these powerful predators. And Danny Huston, as the animalistic leader of the pack, is as disturbing as he is compelling, a feral creature with all senses at full capacity. If there's an action figure, I'm ordering one. (DT)

TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED (PG-13, 113 minutes) Five 30-something African American couples deal with a host of domestic problems in writer-director-producer-star Tyler Perry's adaptation of his play. Too much work, too little work, children, the lack of children, sexually transmitted diseases, the lack of sex, alcohol and infidelity are the main issues. Talk is plentiful; action is not. An attractive ensemble brings conviction to the sometimes-weepy proceedings. As usual, Perry comes down solidly on the side of conventional morality and stable monogamous relationships. (MM)

WE OWN THE NIGHT (R, 117 minutes) For people deeply into movies, the pros-

TIM BURTON

LOVES HER TO DEATH: Jack woos Sally in "The Nightmare Before Christmas."

NOVENA TO THE BLESSED VIRGIN

OH, MOST BEAUTIFUL FLOWER OF MOUNT CARMEL, FRUITFUL VINE, SPLENDOUR OF HEAVEN, BLESSED MOTHER OF SON OF GOD. IMMACULATE VIRGIN, ASSIST ME IN MY NECCESSITY. OH, STAR OF THE SEA, HELP ME, SHOW ME HEREIN YOU ARE MY MOTHER.OH, HOLY MARY, MOTHER OF GOD, QUEEN OF HEAVEN AND EARTH, I HUMBLY BESEECH YOU FROM THE BOTTOM OF MY HEART TO SUCCOUR ME IN THIS NECESSITY. THERE ARE NONE THAT CAN WITHSTAND YOUR POWER. OH, SHOW ME HEREIN, YOU ARE MY MOTHER.OH, MARY CONCEIVED WITHOUT ORIGINAL SIN, PRAY FOR US WHO HAVE RECOURSE TO THEE (SAY THIS THREE TIMES). HOLY MOTHER I PLACE THIS CAUSE IN YOUR HANDS (SAY THIS THREE TIMES). HOLY SPIRIT, YOU WHO SOLVE ALL PROBLEMS, LIGHT ALL ROADS SO THAT ALL CAN ATTAIN MY GOAL. YOU WHO GAVE ME THE DIVINE GIFT TO FORGET AND FORGIVE ALL EVIL AGAINST ME AND THAT IN ALL INSTANCES IN MY LIFE ARE WITH ME. I WANT IN THIS SHORT PRAYER TO THANK YOU FOR ALL THINGS AS YOU CONFIRM ONCE AGAIN THAT I NEVER WANT TO BE SEPARATED FROM YOU IN ETERNAL GLORY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR TOWARD ME AND MINE.

THIS PRAYER IS NEVER KNOWN TO FAIL.

THE PERSON MUST SAY THIS PRAYER FOR THREE CONSECUTIVE DAYS.AFTER THREE DAYS THE REQUEST WILL BE GRANTED.

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GALLERY PLACE STADIUM 14
701 Seventh St NW 800-FANDANGO 1721#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale FRED CLAUS (PG) ★
MUSIC WITHIN (R) - ID REQ'D (1145 205) 430 720 950 1210
SAW IV (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 100 230) 330 510 630 745 920 1020 1200 1240
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (1210 235) 505 730 1005 1230
OC & DA: THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (1150) AM
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) - ID REQ'D 355 1000
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (210) 455 740 955
GONE BABY GONE (R) - ID REQ'D (1245) 415 735 1015
NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS 3D - $2.50 FEE FOR 3D (PG) (1215 220 445) 700 915 1130
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (1155 240) 520 800 1035
RENDITION (R) - ID REQ'D (1230) 400 725 1025
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13) 930 PM
TYLER PERRY'S: WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13) (1205 1240) 315 420 620 715 1010 1220
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (140) 440 755 1040
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (130) 435 750 1030
THE KINGDOM (R) - ID REQ'D (120) 710
HALLOWEEN (R) - ID REQ'D 1235 AM

BALLSTON COMMON STADIUM 12
Glebe Rd, Arlington 800-FANDANGO 377#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (230 505) 740 1015
BELLA (PG-13) (255 525) 755 1025
THE TEN COMMANDMENTS (PG) (210) PM
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (220 515) 800 1045
RENDITION (R) - ID REQ'D (115 420) 725 1030
LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG-13) (205 445) 730 1005
TYLER PERRY'S: WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13) (1250 340) 640 940
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (100 355) 700 955
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (120 405) 650 930
THE KINGDOM (R) - ID REQ'D (140 435) 720 1010
ASSASSINATION OF JESSE JAMES (R) - ID REQ'D (430) 810
INTO THE WILD (R) - ID REQ'D (130 455) 820
ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (PG-13) (150 500) 805

BOWIE STADIUM 14
15200 Major Lansdale Blvd 800-FANDANGO 454#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale FRED CLAUS (PG) ★
SAW IV (R) - ID REQ'D (100 145 315 415 530) 745 830 1015 1045
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (230 515) 800 1045
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (200 445) 730 1015
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (215 430) 645 930
NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS 3D - $2.50 FEE FOR 3D (PG) (115 415) 700 930
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (145 415) 715 1000
RENDITION (R) - ID REQ'D (115 345) 645 945
TYLER PERRY'S: WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13) (100 130 200 345 430 500) 700 730 800 1000 1030
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (200 500) 745 1030
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (215 515) 815
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (115 400) 645 945

BETHESDA 10
7272 Wisconsin Avenue 800-FANDANGO 569#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale FRED CLAUS (PG) ★
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (230 500) 745 1010
SAW IV (R) - ID REQ'D (100 315 530) 745 1000
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (400) 950
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (220 440) 700 920
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (230 515) 800 1030
RENDITION (R) - ID REQ'D (110 400) 730 1015
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (240 515) 800 1030
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13) (115) 715
TYLER PERRY'S: WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13) (100 345) 715 1000
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (210 450) 730 1010
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (200 430) 700 930

POTOMAC YARD STADIUM 16
3575 Jefferson Davis Hwy 800-FANDANGO 690#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale FRED CLAUS (PG) ★
SAW IV (R) - ID REQ'D (1230 200 230 300 430 500 530) 700 730 800 930 1000 1030 1200
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (1210 240 510) 740 1010
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (410) 955
GONE BABY GONE (R) - ID REQ'D (115 415) 715 1015
NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS 3D - $2.50 FEE FOR 3D (PG) (225 440) 650 905 1120
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (220 520) 810 1100
TYLER PERRY'S: WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13) (1250 150 350 450) 650 750 950 1050
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (425) 645 910 1130
OC & DA: THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (205) PM
RENDITION (R) - ID REQ'D (1240 340) 640 940
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13) (110) 710
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (235 525) 820 1110
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (120 420) 720 1020
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (100 345) 630 915
THE KINGDOM (R) - ID REQ'D (1245 355) 635 920
HALLOWEEN (R) - ID REQ'D 1155 PM

COUNTRYSIDE STADIUM 20
45980 Regal Plaza 800-FANDANGO 394#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale FRED CLAUS (PG) ★
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (110 350) 630 920
SAW IV (R) - ID REQ'D (1150 220 500) 740 1020

ROCKVILLE CENTER STADIUM 13
Rockville Town Center 800-FANDANGO 248#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale FRED CLAUS (PG) ★
SAW IV (R) - ID REQ'D (1245 130 300 430 530) 730 815 1000 1045 1225
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (1230 250 515) 745 1015 1235
NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS 3D - $2.50 FEE FOR 3D (PG) (1245 255 500) 715 925 1130
GONE BABY GONE (R) - ID REQ'D (115 415) 715 950
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (200 500) 800 1035
RENDITION (R) - ID REQ'D (100 415) 705 1000
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (115) 935
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (1230 245 500) 720 930 1145
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (130 400) 645 925 1155
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (145 445) 745 1030
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (130 430) 730 1015
THE KINGDOM (R) - ID REQ'D (430) 700 1215
TYLER PERRY'S: WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13) (100 400) 700 945 1230

FAIRFAX TOWNE CENTER 10
4110 W Ox Road 800-FANDANGO 670#

Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG-13) (100 345) 720 945
GONE BABY GONE (R) - ID REQ'D (125 440) 725 1010
GAME PLAN - DIGITAL (PG) (200 435) 730 1000
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (120 355) 650 920
INTO THE WILD (R) - ID REQ'D (105 420) 750
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (145 400) 740 955
HALLOWEEN (R) - ID REQ'D (130 430) 735 1005
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) - ID REQ'D (110 350) 645 930
DARJEELING LIMITED (R) - ID REQ'D (150 415) 710 950
THE JANE AUSTEN BOOK CLUB (PG-13) (140) 700
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (410) 940

GERMANTOWN STADIUM 14
20000 Century Blvd 800-FANDANGO 455#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale FRED CLAUS (PG) ★
SAW IV (R) - ID REQ'D (100 200 400 500) 715 800 1000 1045
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (130 430) 730 1015
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (145 445) 745 1030
RENDITION (R) - ID REQ'D (110 420) 730 1030
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (430) 745 1020
OC & DA: THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (130) PM
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (115) 950
GONE BABY GONE (R) - ID REQ'D (120 410) 700 1000
TYLER PERRY'S: WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13) (115 200 415 500) 715 800 1015 1045
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13) (110) 950
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (140 440) 740 1040
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (145 445) 750 1040
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) - ID REQ'D (410) 700
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (100 400) 645 945
THE KINGDOM (R) - ID REQ'D (415) 720

UA SNOWDEN SQ STADIUM 14
9161 Commerce Ctr Dr 800-FANDANGO 570#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale FRED CLAUS (PG) ★
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (200 445) 730 1010
SAW IV (R) - ID REQ'D (215 500) 745 1015
OC & DA: THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (230) PM
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) - ID REQ'D 915 PM
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (515) 800 1030
GONE BABY GONE (R) - ID REQ'D (145 430) 715 1000
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (215 500) 745 1025
RENDITION (R) - ID REQ'D (115 400) 645 930
TYLER PERRY'S: WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13) (100 200 345 445) 630 730 1020
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13) (130 410) 645 930
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (130 415) 700 945
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (115 400) 715 1000
DARJEELING LIMITED (R) - ID REQ'D (230 515) 805 1030
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (145 430) 700 945
INTO THE WILD (R) - ID REQ'D (100 415) 800

MANASSAS STADIUM 14
11380 Bulloch Drive 800-FANDANGO 490#

Adv. Tix on Sale BEE MOVIE (PG) ★
Adv. Tix on Sale AMERICAN GANGSTER (R) - ID REQ'D ★
Adv. Tix on Sale FRED CLAUS (PG) ★
SAW IV (R) - ID REQ'D (1200 105 230 340 450) 710 745 935 1015
DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13) (1250 330) 730 1000
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) - ID REQ'D (345) 940
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13) (1205 220 435) 755 1010
GONE BABY GONE (R) - ID REQ'D (115 415) 735 1020
NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS 3D - $2.50 FEE FOR 3D (PG) (1225 240 445) 750 950
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (110 400) 645 925
RENDITION (R) - ID REQ'D (1210 300) 725 1010
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13) (120 410) 650 945
TYLER PERRY'S: WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13) (1255 350) 720 1005
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) - ID REQ'D (1220 305) 650 930
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) - ID REQ'D (1230 320) 705 955
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) - ID REQ'D (1230) 700
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (1240 315) 640 920

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Entertainment | Weekend

Now Playing

pect of Mark Wahlberg and Joaquin Phoenix teaming up in a James Gray picture sends little goose bumps up their spines. In this movie, Gray has cast the actors as brothers living in Brooklyn in the 1980s, on conflicting sides of the escalating drug wars. Bobby (Phoenix) is a high-living club manager with a hot, equally party-hearty girlfriend (Eva Mendes). Meanwhile, straight-arrow Joseph (Wahlberg) has gone on the job, joining their dad (Robert Duvall) on the city police force. As a case Joseph is working on, involving the Russian mob, strikes closer to home for Bobby, years of estrangement between the men come to a head, in brutal and finally surprising encounters. Gray clearly knows his way around genre, in this case a cop thriller with generous helpings of melodrama, but the movie never catches fire, even literally in an improbable but visually stunning climax set in a burning field. (AH)

COLUMBIA PICTURES

WHAT IS THAT?! It's a vampire from the gut-wrenching "30 Days of Night."

REVIEWS BY THE WASHINGTON POST'S **ANN HORNADAY**, **STEPHEN HUNTER**, **MICHAEL O'SULLIVAN**, **DESSON THOMSON** AND **TERESA WILTZ**. FOR MORE CAPSULES AND FULL REVIEWS OF THESE AND OTHER FILMS, SEE **WASHINGTONPOST.COM/ENTERTAINMENT**

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PRESENTED IN DIGITAL PROJECTION
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (11:05 @ $6), 1:45, 4:35, 7:25, 10:35

DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG13) ✓ (11:20 @ $6), 2:00, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
MR. UNTOUCHABLE (R) 12:10, 2:35, 5:15, 7:45, 10:00
SAW IV (R) ✓ (11:00, 11:40 @ $6), 12:40, 1:40, 2:20, 3:20, 4:20, 5:00, 6:00, 7:20, 8:00, 9:00, 10:00, 11:30, 12:30
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) ✓ (11:50 @ $6), 2:30, 5:20, 8:20, 11:20
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) ✓ 12:20, 2:45, 5:25, 7:55, 10:25
RENDITION (R) ✓ (10:40 @ $6), 1:50, 4:50, 7:50, 10:50
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) ✓ 2:05, 8:05
TIM BURTON'S THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) ✓ (10:35 @ $6), 12:50, 3:00, 5:30, 7:35, 9:40, 11:50
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG13) 3:10, 8:50
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) (11:35 @ $6), 3:05, 5:55, 8:45, 11:55
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG13) (11:30 @ $6), 1:00, 2:40, 4:00, 5:40, 7:00, 8:40, 10:20, 11:40
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) (10:30 @ $6), 1:20, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) [DVS] [CC] (10:30 @ $6), 1:20, 4:30, 7:30, 10:30
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) (11:15 @ $6), 5:05, 11:05
THE KINGDOM (R) 12:00, 2:50, 5:50, 8:30, 11:30
RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION (R) 12:30, 6:10, 11:35

AMC SELECT
BELLA (PG13) (10:50 @ $6), 1:10, 3:50, 7:10, 9:50, 12:15
THE DARJEELING LIMITED (R) 1:25, 4:05, 7:00, 9:30, 12:10
LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG13) ✓ (11:10 @ $6), 2:10, 5:10, 8:10, 12:15
GONE BABY GONE (R) ✓ (10:45 @ $6), 1:30, 4:10, 7:05, 10:05
INTO THE WILD (R) (11:25 @ $6), 2:55, 6:20, 9:45

AMC COURTHOUSE PLAZA 8
Courthouse and Birch Rd.
703-998-4AMC

SAW IV (R) ✓ 12:50, 3:10, 5:30, 8:20, 10:35
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) ✓ 12:40, 3:00, 5:15, 7:20, 9:30
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) ✓ 1:50, 7:00
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG13) 12:05, 2:30, 5:10, 7:50, 10:20
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) 12:10, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:40
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) 4:20, 9:50

AMC SELECT
THE DARJEELING LIMITED (R) 1:30, 3:40, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30
GONE BABY GONE (R) ✓ 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
EASTERN PROMISES (R) 12:00, 2:10, 4:40, 7:10, 9:40

MAGIC JOHNSON CAPITAL CENTRE 12
800 Shopper's Way, Largo
301-324-4220

SAW IV (R) 12:10, 1:00, 2:30, 3:45, 4:45, 6:05, 7:00, 8:45, 9:45
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) 1:25, 4:25, 7:25, 10:25
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) 12:35, 3:05, 5:20, 8:05, 10:15
RENDITION (R) 12:55, 3:55, 6:55, 9:55
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) 1:30, 4:10, 7:10, 10:05
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) 5:15
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG13) 12:30, 1:15, 3:30, 4:15, 6:30, 7:15, 9:15, 10:15
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20
FEEL THE NOISE (PG13) 12:25, 3:00, 8:00, 10:20
THE GAME PLAN (PG) 12:05, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 10:00
THE KINGDOM (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:40, 10:10

LOEWS SHIRLINGTON 7
2772 South Randolph
703-671-0910 801

O JERUSALEM (R) 1:30, 4:20, 7:20, 9:40

AMC SELECT
MUSIC WITHIN (R) 2:10, 4:30, 7:30, 9:50
THE DARJEELING LIMITED (R) 1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 9:20
LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG13) 1:40, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30
INTO THE WILD (R) 1:50, 4:50, 7:50
SLEUTH (R) 2:20, 4:40, 7:40, 9:40
LUST, CAUTION (NC-17) 2:00, 5:10, 8:30

LOEWS WHITE FLINT 5
North Bethesda
1-800-FANDANGO #741

RENDITION (R) 1:45, 4:30, 7:20, 10:00
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG13) 2:00, 4:35, 7:15, 10:05
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) 1:40, 4:15, 7:00, 9:40
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) 1:50, 4:25, 7:05, 9:50
THE KINGDOM (R) 1:55, 4:20, 7:30, 9:55

AMC COLUMBIA MALL 14
10300 Patuxent Parkway
703-998-4AMC

DIGITAL 3D
TIM BURTON'S THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG)
(11:50 @ $7), 2:00, 4:10, 6:20, 8:30, 10:40

DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG13) 12:25, 3:00, 5:35, 8:10, 10:45
SAW IV (R) (11:10 @ $5), 1:40, 4:20, 7:00, 9:35
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) (11:30 @ $5), 2:20, 5:10, 8:00, 10:50
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) (10:55 @ $5), 1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:40, 11:05
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) [DVS] [CC] (10:55 @ $5), 1:20, 3:45, 6:10, 8:40, 11:05
RENDITION (R) (10:25 @ $5), 1:10, 3:55, 6:40, 9:25
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) (10:30 @ $5), 1:05
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG13) 3:50
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) (10:40 @ $5), 1:25, 4:15, 7:10, 10:00
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG13) (10:35 @ $5), 1:30, 4:25, 7:20, 10:15
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) 12:15, 2:55, 5:40, 8:20, 11:00
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) (10:50 @ $5), 1:35
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (11:20 @ $5), 2:10, 4:55, 7:40, 10:25
THE KINGDOM (R) 6:50, 9:30

AMC SELECT
GONE BABY GONE (R) (11:05 @ $5), 1:55, 4:45, 7:30, 10:20
ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (PG13) 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:40

AMC SPRINGFIELD MALL 10
Loisdale and Franconia Road
703-971-3991

SAW IV (R) ✓ 1:00, 3:20, 5:45, 8:10, 10:30
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) ✓ 1:45, 4:30, 7:10, 10:00
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) ✓ 5:30, 7:50, 10:05
RENDITION (R) ✓ 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) 4:40, 7:45, 10:30
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG13) 1:30, 4:15, 7:20, 10:20
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
THE GAME PLAN (PG) 4:35, 7:10, 9:45

AMC SELECT
GONE BABY GONE (R) ✓ 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15

LOEWS RIO CINEMAS 18
9811 Washingtonian Boulevard
301-948-0906

DIGITAL 3D
TIM BURTON'S THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) ✓
(11:10 @ $7), 1:15, 3:25, 5:30, 7:45, 9:55

DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG13) ✓ (11:20 @ $5), 1:45, 4:10, 6:40, 9:10
SAW IV (R) ✓ (11:05 @ $5), 1:30, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40, 11:00
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) ✓ (11:40 @ $5), 2:20, 5:00, 7:50, 10:50
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) ✓ (11:50 @ $5), 2:10, 4:35, 7:10, 9:40
RENDITION (R) ✓ (10:40 @ $5), 1:30, 4:25, 7:15, 10:05
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) ✓ 1:40
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG13) (10:55 @ $5), 4:50
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) (11:00 @ $5), 1:50, 4:45, 7:30, 10:20
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG13) (10:50 @ $5), 1:35, 4:20, 7:05, 9:50
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) (11:45 @ $5), 2:35, 5:25, 8:10, 10:55
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) [DVS] [CC] (11:45 @ $5), 2:35, 5:25, 8:10, 10:55
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) 7:40, 10:25
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (11:45 @ $5), 2:25, 5:10, 7:55, 10:30
THE KINGDOM (R) (11:25 @ $5), 2:05, 4:55

AMC SELECT
BELLA (PG13) (11:30 @ $5), 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30
THE DARJEELING LIMITED (R) ✓ (10:45 @ $5), 1:20, 4:15, 7:20, 9:45
LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG13) ✓ (10:50 @ $5), 1:25, 4:05, 6:50, 9:25
GONE BABY GONE (R) ✓ (11:10 @ $5), 1:55, 4:40, 7:25, 10:10
INTO THE WILD (R) (11:35 @ $5), 3:15, 6:30, 10:00
ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (PG13) (11:55 @ $5), 3:00, 6:25, 9:20

LOEWS GEORGETOWN 14
3111 K Street, N.W.
202-342-6441

DIGITAL 3D
TIM BURTON'S THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) ✓ 1:45, 3:50, 6:00, 8:05, 10:05, 12:00

DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG13) ✓ 12:00, 2:15, 4:45, 7:15, 9:45, 11:55
SAW IV (R) ✓ 2:00, 4:30, 7:00, 9:30, 12:00
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) ✓ 1:20, 3:35, 5:50, 8:15, 10:30
RENDITION (R) ✓ 1:55, 4:50, 7:40, 10:35
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) ✓ 1:15
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG13) 12:00, 2:25, 5:00, 7:35
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:40
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG13) 4:00, 6:45, 9:35, 12:05
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) 2:20, 5:05, 7:50, 10:50
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) [CC] 2:20, 5:05, 7:50, 10:50
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) 10:20 PM
THE KINGDOM (R) 1:40, 4:15, 6:55

AMC SELECT
THE DARJEELING LIMITED (R) 2:10, 4:35, 7:30, 10:10
GONE BABY GONE (R) ✓ 12:05, 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:45
INTO THE WILD (R) 12:50, 4:10, 7:25, 10:55
ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (PG13) 1:00, 4:05, 7:05, 10:15

AMC POTOMAC MILLS 18
2700 Potomac Mills Circle, Ste 886
703-998-4262

DIGITAL 3D
TIM BURTON'S THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) ✓
(11:25 @ $7), 1:40, 3:50, 5:55, 8:05, 10:15

DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG13) ✓ (10:00 @ $5), 12:30, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:30
SAW IV (R) ✓ (10:10, 11:40 @ $5), 12:40, 2:10, 3:10, 4:35, 5:40, 7:10, 8:10, 9:40, 10:40, 12:00
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) ✓ (11:10 @ $5), 2:00, 4:50, 7:35, 10:25
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) [CC] ✓ (11:10 @ $5), 2:00, 4:50, 7:35, 10:25
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) ✓ (11:50 @ $5), 2:15, 4:30, 6:55, 9:20
RENDITION (R) ✓ (10:15 @ $5), 1:10, 4:10, 7:00, 9:50
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) ✓ 12:00, 5:05, 10:10
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG13) (10:20 @ $5), 1:00, 4:05, 6:50, 9:30
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) (10:30 @ $5), 1:25, 4:20, 7:15, 10:05
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG13) (11:00 @ $5), 1:50, 4:40, 7:30, 10:20
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) (11:15 @ $5), 2:05, 4:55, 7:40, 10:35
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) (10:35 @ $5), 1:35, 4:15, 7:05, 9:45
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (11:05 @ $5), 1:55, 4:45, 7:20, 9:55
THE KINGDOM (R) (10:40 @ $5), 1:20, 4:00, 6:40, 9:35
RESIDENT EVIL: EXTINCTION (R) 2:45, 7:50

AMC SELECT
LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG13) ✓ (10:45 @ $5), 1:30, 4:25, 7:25, 10:00
GONE BABY GONE (R) ✓ (11:45 @ $5), 2:25, 5:10, 7:55, 10:45
INTO THE WILD (R) (10:25 @ $5), 1:45, 5:00, 8:15

AMC TYSONS CORNER 16
7850 Tysons Corner Center
703-998-4262

DIGITAL 3D
TIM BURTON'S THE NIGHTMARE BEFORE CHRISTMAS IN DISNEY DIGITAL 3D (PG) ✓
(10:20 @ $8), 12:30, 2:35, 4:50, 7:05, 9:15, 11:15

DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG13) ✓ (10:00 @ $6), 12:25, 2:50, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00, 12:30
SAW IV (R) ✓ (10:15 @ $6), 12:45, 3:15, 4:15, 5:45, 7:05, 8:15, 9:40, 10:45, 12:15
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R) ✓ 12:10, 2:45, 5:25, 8:10, 10:55
THE COMEBACKS (PG13) ✓ (10:05 @ $6), 12:20, 2:30, 4:45, 7:15, 9:30, 11:45
RENDITION (R) ✓ (11:15 @ $6), 2:05, 5:05, 7:50, 10:35
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R) ✓ (10:30 @ $6), 1:15
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG13) 2:40, 8:00
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) (11:05 @ $6), 1:50, 5:00, 8:05, 10:50
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG13) (10:55 @ $6), 1:40, 4:30, 7:20, 10:10
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) ✓ (11:10 @ $6), 2:00, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R) [DVS] [CC] ✓ (11:10 @ $6), 2:00, 4:55, 7:40, 10:20
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R) (11:45 @ $6), 5:20, 10:45
THE GAME PLAN (PG) (11:00 @ $6), 1:45, 4:20, 7:10, 9:50, 12:25
THE KINGDOM (R) 12:15, 2:55, 5:35, 8:20, 10:55

AMC SELECT
THE DARJEELING LIMITED (R) 12:15, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:15, 12:35
GONE BABY GONE (R) ✓ (11:40 @ $6), 2:30, 5:15, 7:55, 10:40
ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (PG13) (10:10 @ $6), 1:10, 4:05, 7:00, 10:05

AMC MAZZA GALLERIE
Jenifer and Wisconsin
202-537-9553

DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG13) ✓ 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:20
SAW IV (R) ✓ 3:15, 5:50, 7:50, 10:10
RENDITION (R) ✓ 2:00, 4:40, 7:20, 10:00
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG13) 1:50, 4:30, 7:15, 9:45
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) 1:45, 4:25, 7:10, 9:50
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG13) 2:10, 4:45, 7:30, 10:15
THE GAME PLAN (PG) 1:55, 4:35, 7:00, 9:40

LOEWS DUPONT 5
1350 19th St.
1-800-FANDANGO #711

MEETING RESISTANCE (NR–NOT RATED) 1:45, 4:30, 7:15, 9:30
MR. UNTOUCHABLE (R) 2:15, 5:00, 7:45, 9:50
O JERUSALEM (R) 2:30, 5:15, 8:00, 10:30
DESERT BAYOU (NR–NOT RATED) 1:30, 4:15, 7:00, 9:15
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R) 2:00, 4:45, 7:30, 10:20

LOEWS UPTOWN 1
3426 Connecticut Avenue N.W.
1-800-FANDANGO #713

BLADE RUNNER: THE FINAL CUT (R) ✓ 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00

Times for Friday, October 26, 2007

✓-SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT No passes or discount coupons [CC] - Closed Captioning · [DVS] - Descriptive Video Service

express ➔ movie showtimes

MARYLAND

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Bring your babies & enjoy the show
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*NO PASSES ACCEPTED

***SAW IV (R)**
11:30, 12:30, 2:00, 3:00, 4:30, 5:30, 7:00, 8:00,9:30, 10:30
***DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13)**
12:00, 2:30, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
***LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG-13)**
11:15, 1:55, 4:35, 7:15, 9:50
***Tyler Perry's WHY DID I GET MARRIED ? (PG-13)**
11:20, 1:00, 2:20, 4:00
5:20, 7:00, 8:30, 10:00
***30 DAYS OF NIGHTS (R)**
11:25, 2:05, 4:55, 7:45, 10:30
***GONE BABY GONE (R)**
11:10, 1:50, 4:40, 7:20, 10:10
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R)
12:55, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05
***COME BACK (PG-13)**
11:35, 1:45, 4:05, 6:50, 9:05
***RENDITION (R)**
1:15, 4:25, 7:35, 10:20
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R)
1:20, 4:20, 7:40, 10:25
THE GAME PLAN (PG-13)
12:45, 3:30, 6:35, 9:15
THE KINGDOM (R)
1:05, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
FEEL THE NOISE (PG-13)
12:20, 2:45, 5:10, 7:25, 9:40
***INTO THE WILD (R)**
11:55, 3:25, 6:40, 9:55
***THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R)**
1:10, 4:10, 7:05, 10:15
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R)
12:40, 3:40, 6:30, 9:20
ACROSS THE UNIVERSE
(PG-13) 12:05, 3:15, 6:25, 9:25
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13)
12:10, 6:55, 9:35
THE ASSASSINATION OF JESSE JAMES (R)
3:10

LANDMARK'S BETHESDA ROW
7235 Woodmont Ave • (301) 652-7273
Moviefone (301 or 202) 333-3456 #805
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM
JANE AUSTEN BOOK CLUB (PG-13)
1:40, 4:20, 7:20, 10:00
LUST, CAUTION (NC-17)
2:45, 6:30, 9:45
LARS & THE REAL GIRL (PG-13)
1:30, 4:30, 7:30, 10:00
INTO THE WILD (R)
12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
DARJEELING UNLIMITED (R)
12:55, 3:15, 5:30, 7:40, 9:55
GONE BABY GONE (R)
1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:40
ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (PG-13)
1:00, 3:50, 6:50, 9:50
SLEUTH (R)
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:30

P&G OLD GREENBELT
301-474-9744
40 ft. Screen
At intersection of Crescent & Southway
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R)
(5:00 @ $6.00) 7:30, 9:50

ACADEMY STADIUM THEATRES at Beltway Plaza
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Only Minutes from the Beltway!
WHY GO ANYWHERE ELSE?

SAW IV (R)
(!) 12:20, 2:45, 5:30, 8:00, 10:15
30 DAYS OF NIGHTS (R)
(!) 1:00, 3:35, 6:45, 9:30
THE COMEBACKS (PG)
(!) 12:20, 2:35, 5:30, 8:00, 10:15
RENDITION (R)
(!) 12:40, 3:30, 6:30, 9:15
Tyler Perry's WHY DID I GET MARRIED (PG-13)
12:00, 12:40, 2:35, 3:45
5:15, 6:30, 7:50, 9:15, 10:30
THE KINGDOM (R)
(!) 12:00, 2:30, 5:15, 7:45, 10:30
THE GAME PLAN (PG)
(!) 12:10, 2:45, 5:15, 7:45, 10:30

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East West Hwy near Belcrest Rd.
Hyattsville, MD

*NO PASSES ACCEPTED
***SAW IV (R)**
12:05, 1:05, 2:30, 3:30, 5:00
7:05, 8:05, 9:45, 10:45
***DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13)**
12:10, 2:35, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
***GONE BABY GONE (R)**
12:15, 4:50, 7:45, 10:25
***30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R)**
12:25, 4:55, 7:35, 10:35
***THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R)**
12:20, 4:15, 7:10, 10:05
***RENDITION (R)**
12:35, 4:20, 7:20, 10:15
***THE COMEBACKS (PG-13)**
12:55, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50
TYLER PERRY'S WHY DID I GET MARRIED? (PG-13)
12:00, 1:00, 2:40, 4:00, 5:20
7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 10:40
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R)
12:45, 3:50, 7:50, 10:30
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R)
12:30, 3:25, 7:25, 10:10
THE GAME PLAN (PG)
12:40, 4:10, 7:15, 9:40
THE KINGDOM (R)
12:50, 5:10, 7:55, 10:20

P&G WESTFIELD MONTGOMERY
7101 Democracy Blvd. Beth 301-767-9555
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM!

ACROSS THE UNIVERSE (PG-13)
3:00, 5:30, 7:45 9:55
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R)
2:55, 5:15, 7:40, 9:50
THE GAME PLAN (PG)
2:50, 5:10, 7:30, 9:40

P&G WHEATON 11
Westfield Wheaton Mall 301-949-9201
301-949-9201 (!) denotes no passes
All shows before 6pm $6.00
SAW IV (R)
5:10, 7:30, 9;45
BELLA (PG-13)
5:00, 7:20, 9:35
30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R)
5:20, 7;40, 9:55
THE COMEBACKS (PG-13)
4:30, 7:00, 9:00
THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R)
5:15, 7:25, 9:45
RENDITION (R)
4:55, 7:20, 9:50
GONE BABY GONE (R)
4:50, 7:20, 9:35
Tyler Perry's WHY DID I GET MARRIED (PG-13)
5:05, 7:35, 9:55
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R)
4:45, 7:15, 9:40
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R)
4:40, 7:05, 9:20
THE GAME PLAN (PG)
4:55, 7:00, 9:10

VIRGINIA

CINEMA ARTS THEATRE
9650 Main St., Fairfax 703-978-6991
www.cinemaartstheatre.com
LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG-13)
9:50 AM, 12:00, 2:15, 4:35, 7:40, 9:50
LUST, CAUTION (NC-17)
10:05, 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 9:55
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R)
9:55, 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:50, 10:05
DARJEELING EXPRESS (R)
10:00, 12:10, 2:35, 4:45, 8:00, 9:45
INTO THE WILD (R)
10:10, 1:15, 4:15, 7:20, 10:00
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13) ,
12:05, 4:50, 7:30
THE JANE AUSTEN BOOK CLUB (PG-13)_
9:45, 2:25, 9:40

CONSOLIDATED THEATRES KINGSTOWNE 16
5910 Kingstowne Towne Center
Alexandria, Va. 703-822-4956
www.consolidatedmovies.com

*SPECIAL ENGAGEMENT/NO PASSES

***SAW IV (R)**
12:25, 1:35, 2:45, 4:00, 5:15
6:45, 8:00, 9:15, 10:25
***DAN IN REAL LIFE (PG-13)**
12:00, 2:25, 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
***THE COMEBACKS (PG-13)**
12:20, 2:35, 4:45, 7:05, 9:25
***RENDITION (R)**
12:50, 3:35, 6:55, 9:40
***30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R)**
1:30, 4:15, 7:45, 10:20
***THINGS WE LOST IN THE FIRE (R)**
12:55, 3:40, 6:35, 9:20
***GONE BABY GONE (R)**
1:25, 4:25, 7:20, 10:05
WHY DID I GET MARRIED (PG-13)
12:45, 1:45, 3:30, 4:30
6:40, 7:50, 9:30, 10:30
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R)
1:00, 3:55, 7:00, 9:50
THE GAME PLAN (PG)
1:10, 3:45, 7:15, 9:55
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R)
1:20, 4:05, 6:50, 9:45
THE KINGDOM (R)
1:05, 4:20, 7:35, 10:15
ELIZABETH: THE GOLDEN AGE (PG-13)
12:35, 3:15, 6:25, 9:05
THE HEARTBREAK KID (R)
12:10, 2:50, 6:30, 9:10

DISTRICT

LANDMARK'S E street CINEMA
E St. at 11th St. NW • (202) 452-7672
Moviefone (301 or 202) 333-3456 #781
BARGAIN MATINEES BEFORE 6 PM
FOR THE BIBLE TELLS ME SO (NR)
12:45, 3:215, 5:30, 7;45, 10:10
KURT COBAIN ABOUT A SON (NR)
12:30, 2:40, 5:00, 7:30, 10:05
LUST, CAUTION (NC-17)
2:45, 6:30, 9:40
DARJEELING LIMITED (R)
12:55, 3:10, 5:20, 7:40, 9:55
INTO THE WILD (R)
12:45, 3:45, 6:45, 9:45
LARS AND THE REAL GIRL (PG-13)
1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 9:50
THE BUBBLE (NR)
1:10, 4:10, 7:10, 9:50
TERROR'S ADVOCATE (NR)
2:00, 7:00
KING CORN (NR)
4:45 10:00

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***SAW IV (R)**
11:50, 2:25, 5:20, 7:50, 10:20
***30 DAYS OF NIGHT (R)**
11:55, 2:10, 4:40, 7:20, 9:50
***RENDITION (R)**
11:30, 2:15, 5:05, 7:45, 10:15
***THE COMEBACKS (PG-13)**
12:00, 2:40, 4:55, 7:30, 9:45
WHY DID I GET MARRIED (PG-13)
11:35, 2:20, 5:00, 7:40, 10:10
MICHAEL CLAYTON (R)
11:40, 2:25, 5:25, 8;00, 10:30
WE OWN THE NIGHT (R)
11:45, 2:30, 5:15, 7:55, 10:25
THE GAME PLAN (PG)
12:05, 2:35, 5:10, 7:35, 10:00
THE KINGDOM (R)
11:50, 2:45, 5:20, 7:55, 10:25

readexpress.com

X571 2x.5

Television

RIDING 'FRAISER'S' COATTAILS: Fox has added 11 more episodes to the first season of "Back to You," bringing the total number of episodes to 24. The sitcom stars Kelsey Grammer and Patricia Heaton as co-anchors on a Pittsburgh TV station.

ON TV THIS WEEKEND

A HISTORY OF VAMPIRES

The hour-long documentary **BLOODSUCKING CINEMA** (8 p.m., Starz, Fri.) takes an enthusiastic look at the vampire in film from the silent classic "Nosferatu" by German expressionist director F.W. Murnau to contemporary versions of the genre.

WEAK SPIN-OFF

The top 12 pop combos clash on **THE NEXT GREAT AMERICAN BAND** (8 p.m., Fox, Fri.).

HOW TO BECOME BITTER

Scheduled on 20/20 (8 p.m., ABC, Fri.): profiles of rich and successful people.

WEAR BLACK

Death comes to yet another major character on **MEERKAT MANOR** (8:30 p.m., Animal Planet, Fri.). Just weeks after Flower's passing, "Meerkat Manor" viewers will have to sit vigil for another anthropomorphized critter.

THE IMPORTANT ISSUES

LARRY KING LIVE (9 p.m., CNN, Fri.) takes time out from the "Planet in Peril" campaign to rehash the squabbles of Britney Spears and Kevin Federline.

HAZARDOUS OCCUPATION

A teen vampire targets Internet escorts on **MOONLIGHT** (9 p.m., CBS, Fri.).

F.W. MURNAU

BLOOD CRAVERS: Starz looks at "Nosferatu," a silent vampire flick from 1922.

PENSIVE BLONDE

Taylor mulls a life-changing move on **FRIDAY NIGHT LIGHTS** (9 p.m., NBC, Fri.).

SUGAR MAMAS

25 HOTTEST HOLLYWOOD COUGAR TALES (5 p.m., E!, Sat.) counts down the celebrated love affairs between female celebrities (Demi Moore, for example) and younger men (Ashton Kutcher).

BOO! HA, HA!

The slasher genre gets diced in the 2000 comedy **SCARY MOVIE** (8 p.m., NBC, Sat.).

HOLIDAY HIJACKING

HALLOWEEN MADNESS (8 p.m., TLC, Sat.) has nothing to do with goblins. Instead, it follows the truly terrifying trend toward ever more elaborate, expensive and competitive holiday decorations.

FOOLING WITH A CLASSIC

The legend of Sleepy Hollow gets a cheesy contemporary makeover in the 2007 made-for-cable shocker **HEADLESS HORSEMAN** (9 p.m., Sci Fi, Sat.).

YOU TRY TO BE NICE ...

A teacher's volunteerism proves fatal on **LAW & ORDER: SPECIAL VICTIMS UNIT** (10 p.m., NBC, Sat.).

CELEBRITIES GET SCARED, TOO

TV Land spends a night exploring the scary myths and legends of television and Hollywood, starting with **THE GHOST AND MRS. GABOR** (7 p.m., Sun.).

THE BUZZ

NATURE (8 p.m., PBS, Sun.) examines the baffling and terrifying "Silence of the Bees." Back in the 1970s, "disaster" movies like "The Swarm" scared audiences with clouds of killer bees. But it seems that the widespread death and disappearance of pollinating honeybees is a far more frightening — and real — prospect.

JASIN BOLAND/AP

Matt Damon, left, in "Supremacy."

CONFUSION, ROUND 2

Matt Damon stars in the 2004 thriller sequel **THE BOURNE SUPREMACY** (8 p.m., NBC, Sun.).

SELFLESS INDIVIDUAL

Larry insults those he would help on **CURB YOUR ENTHUSIASM** (10 p.m., HBO, Sun.). KEVIN MCDONOUGH (UNITED FEATURE SYNDICATE)

10.26.07		6:00 PM	6:30	7:00	7:30	8:00	8:30	9:00	9:30	10:00	10:30	11:00	11:30
LOCAL CHANNELS	WRC 4	News (N) CC		NBC Nightly News	Access Hollywood	Deal or No Deal (iTV) (N) CC		Friday Night Lights "Backfire" (N)		Las Vegas (N) CC		News (N) CC	Tonight Show
	WTTG 5	News (N)	TMZ (N) CC	The Simpsons	Seinfeld CC	The Next Great American Band The top 12 bands each perform two songs.				News (N)		News (N)	TMZ CC
	WJLA 7	News (N) CC	ABC Wld News	Wheel of Fortune	Jeopardy! (N)	20/20 (N) CC		Women's Murder Club (N) CC		(:01) Men in Trees (N) CC		News (N) CC	(:35) Nightline (N)
	WUSA 9	News (N) CC	Evening News	News	Entertainment	Ghost Whisperer (N) CC		Moonlight "Arrested Development" (N)		NUMB3RS "Robin Hood" (N) CC		News (N) CC	Late Show
	WDCA 20	Judge Judy (N)	Judge Joe Brown	King of Queens	King of Queens	★★★ "Carrie" (1976, Horror) Sissy Spacek, Piper Laurie. CC				Every-Raymond	King of the Hill	Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC	
	WMPT 22	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Business Rpt.	State Circle	Washington Week	NOW (N) CC	Bill Moyers Journal (N) CC		Mystery! "Foyle's War III: They Fought in the Fields"			State Circle
	WETA 26	BBC World News	Business Rpt.	The NewsHour With Jim Lehrer (N)		Washington Week	Inside Wash.	Bill Moyers Journal (N) CC		The Secret World of Haute Couture		Charlie Rose (N) CC	
	WHUT 32	White House	Tavis Smiley	BBC World News	Moneywise	Eve. Exchange	To the Contrary	History Detectives CC		BBC World News	Tavis Smiley	Charlie Rose (N) CC	
	WDCW 50	My Wife and Kids	Family Guy CC	Two/Half Men	Friends CC	WWE Friday Night SmackDown! (N) CC				Family Guy CC	Friends CC	Two/Half Men	Sex and the City
BASIC CABLE	A&E	Cold Case Files CC		CSI: Miami "Forced Entry" CC		★★★★ "The Godfather" (1972, Drama) Marlon Brando, Al Pacino, James Caan. A mafia patriarch tries to hold his empire together. CC							
	Animal	The Crocodile Hunter CC		Fooled by Nature	Fooled by Nature	Meerkat Manor	Meerkat Manor	Saving a Species (N)		Animal Precinct CC		Fooled by Nature	Fooled by Nature
	BET	106 & Park: BET's Top 10 Live Top 10 countdown. (N)			Hell Date CC	★★ "Preaching to the Choir" (2005) Billoah Greene. Premiere. CC				College-Interns	College-Interns	Hell Date CC	Hell Date CC
	Bravo	Ultimate Super Heroes-Villains		Even Scarier Movie Moments CC		Even Scarier Movie Moments CC		★★ "Leprechaun" (1992) Warwick Davis, Jennifer Aniston. Premiere. CC				★ "Leprechaun 4 in Space" (1996)	
	Comedy	★★ "So I Married an Axe Murderer"		Scrubs CC	Scrubs CC	Daily Show	Colbert Report	Chappelle's Show	Mind of Mencia	Jeff Dunham: Spark of Insanity The comic performs.			Com.-Presents
	Court	World's Wildest Police Videos CC		Cops CC	Cops CC	World's Worst Drivers 2		Forensic Files	Forensic Files	Forensic Files	North Mission	The Investigators "Evil Eyes"	
	Discovery	How It's Made	How It's Made	Survivorman CC		Storm Chasers		Man vs. Wild Australia's outback.		Last One Standing "Nagaland"		Survivorman	
	DISCH	Code Blue "Someone to Lean On"		Trauma: Life in the ER CC		Surgery Saved My Life CC		Dr. G: Medical Examiner		Mystery ER CC		Surgery Saved My Life CC	
	Disney	Zack & Cody	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana	Zack & Cody	Hannah Montana	Wizards-Place	★★★ "Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets" (2002, Fantasy) Daniel Radcliffe, Rupert Grint. CC					
	E!	Kathy Griffin: True Hollywood Story		E! News (N)	The Daily 10 (N)	Dr. 90210 "The Gilded Ages"		Kimora: Fab	Kardashians	The Soup (N)	Court Show	E! News	Chelsea Lately
	FX	(5:00) ★★★ "X2: X-Men United" (2003) Patrick Stewart, Hugh Jackman.				★★ "Dark Water" (2005) Jennifer Connelly, John C. Reilly. Premiere.				That '70s Show	That '70s Show	★★ "Dark Water" (2005, Suspense)	
	HGTV	Extreme Homes	If Walls Could	House Worth?	House Hunters	Designed to Sell	Decorating Cents	Get It Together	Fun Shui (N)	House Hunters	House Hunters	Get It Sold	Parents House
	Family	8 Simple Rules	8 Simple Rules	Grounded for Life	Grounded for Life	★★ "An American Haunting" (2005) Donald Sutherland. Premiere. CC				America's Funniest Home Videos		The 700 Club CC	
	History	Hangar 18	Our Generation	Modern Marvels: The M-16 CC		Modern Marvels: Truck Stops CC		Countdown to Armageddon CC				Wild West Tech: Execution Tech	
	Lifetime	Reba CC	Reba CC	Still Standing	Still Standing	Reba CC	Reba CC	Lisa Williams: Life Among the Dead		America's Psychic Challenge (N)		Blood Ties "5:55" (N) CC	
	MTV	America's Next Top Model CC		America's Next Top Model CC		America's Next Top Model CC		America's Next Top Model CC		America's Next Top Model CC		A Shot of Love With Tila Tequila	
	NICK	Drake & Josh	Drake & Josh	Zoey 101 CC	Ned's School	Back, Barnyard	Avatar-Last Air	Tigre: Rivera	Tak, Power	George Lopez	George Lopez	Home Improve.	Home Improve.
	SCIFI	(5:00) ★★ "Final Destination 2"		Bionic Woman CC		Odyssey 5 "Shatterer" CC		Flash Gordon "Random Access" (N)		Stargate Atlantis "Travelers" (N)		Flash Gordon "Random Access"	
	SPIKE	CSI: Crime Scene Investigation CC		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation		CSI: Crime Scene Investigation CC		Ultimate Knockouts		UFC Fight Night CC			
	TBS	Friends CC	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	Every-Raymond	★★ "Old School" (2003) Luke Wilson, Will Ferrell. CC			Sex and the City	Sex and the City	(:45) ★★ Enough
	TLC	Flip That House	Flip That House	Say Yes to the Dress		What Not to Wear "Beth" CC		What Not to Wear Tacky wardrobe.		Say Yes to the Dress (N)		What Not to Wear Tacky wardrobe.	
	TNT	★★ "Blade II" (2002, Horror) Wesley Snipes, Kris Kristofferson. CC				★★ "The Chronicles of Riddick" (2004, Science Fiction) Vin Diesel, Colm Feore. CC					★★★ "The Fifth Element" (1997) Bruce Willis. CC		
	USA	Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC		Law & Order: Criminal Intent "Blink"		Law & Order: Special Victims Unit		Monk CC		Law & Order: Criminal Intent CC		House Possible alien abduction. CC	
	VHI	100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 40-21.		100 Greatest Teen Stars Teens 20-1.		America's Most Smartest Model		Best Week Ever	Hogan Knows	Hogan Knows	Salt N Pepa	Best Week Ever	I Love New York
SPAN.	TELEM	Daniela	Noti-Telemndo	12 Corazones		Madre Luna		La Esclava Isaura		Pecados Ajenos		Noti-Telemndo	Titulares y Mas
	UNIV	Que Locura	Noticiero Univ	Yo Amo a Juan Querendón (N)		Amar sin Límites (N)		Destilando Amor (N)		Familia-Luche	Retro P. Luche	Primer Impacto	Noticiero Univ.
SPORTS	ESPN	SportsCenter (Live) CC		NBA Shootaround	NBA Preseason Basketball Cleveland Cavaliers at Boston Celtics. (Live) CC					NBA Preseason Basketball Sacramento Kings at Los Angeles Lakers. CC			
	ESPN2	NASCAR Now	Football Live	NASCAR Racing Nextel Cup -- Pep Boys 500 Qualifying. (Live)				College Football Boise State at Fresno State. (Live) CC					
	CSN	SportsNite CC	SportsNite CC	NHL Hockey Vancouver Canucks at Washington Capitals. (Subject to Blackout) (Live)					SportsNite CC	SportsNite (Live) CC		Washington Post Live	
NEWS	CNN	Lou Dobbs Tonight CC		The Situation Room		Out in the Open		Larry King Live Dr. Drew Pinsky. (N)		Anderson Cooper 360 CC			
	FNC	Special Report CC		The Fox Report With Shepard Smith		The O'Reilly Factor CC		Hannity & Colmes CC		On the Record-Van Susteren		The O'Reilly Factor	
	MSNBC	Tucker		Hardball CC		Countdown With Keith Olbermann		MSNBC Investigates Iowa prison.		MSNBC Investigates "Lockup: Inside L.A. County"			
MOVIES	AMC	★★ "Halloween 5: The Revenge of Michael Meyers" (1989, Horror) 'R' CC				★★ "The Ninth Gate" (1999) Johnny Depp. A rare-book dealer is hired to track down two satanic tomes. 'R' CC						★★ "Gothika" (2003) Halle Berry. 'R'	
	TCM	Zombies-Mora	(:45) ★★★ "White Zombie" (1932) Bela Lugosi. 'NR'			★★★ "A Bucket of Blood" (1959)		(:15) ★ "Creature From the Haunted Sea" (1961) 'NR'			★★★ "The Pit and the Pendulum" (1961) Vincent Price.		
	HBO	(5:30) ★★★ "Over the Hedge" 'PG'		Inside the NFL CC		Bee Movie 1st	"Borat: Cultural Learnings of America for Make Benefit"			Curb-Enthsm	Curb-Enthsm	Real Time With Bill Maher CC	
	MAX	★★★★ "Children of Men" (2006, Science Fiction) Clive Owen. 'R' CC				★★ "You, Me and Dupree" (2006, Comedy) Owen Wilson. 'PG-13' CC				★★ "There's Something About Mary" (1998) Cameron Diaz. 'R' CC			
	SHOW	Jiminy	★★ "The Honeymooners" (2005) Cedric the Entertainer.			Mo'Nique: Your Cellmate		Weeds "Cankles"	Californication	Brotherhood "Not Dark Yet 3:5-6"		ShoXC: Elite Challenger Series	
	TMC	(:15) ★★ "Jumanji" (1995, Fantasy) Robin Williams. 'PG' CC				★★★ "Sherrybaby" (2006) Maggie Gyllenhaal. 'R' CC			(:45) ★ "Shadowboxer" (2005, Suspense) Helen Mirren. 'R' CC				Sleepless In
	STARZ!	★★★ "The Pursuit of Happyness" (2006) Will Smith. 'PG-13' CC				Bloodsucking Cinema (N) CC		★★ "Underworld: Evolution" (2006, Horror) Kate Beckinsale. 'R' CC				(10:50) ★★★ "Dawn of the Dead"	
	ENCORE	(:05) ★★ "Kingpin" (1996, Comedy) Woody Harrelson. 'PG-13' CC				★★ "Fun With Dick & Jane" (2005) Jim Carrey. 'PG-13'			(:35) ★★ "Eraser" (1996, Action) Arnold Schwarzenegger. 'R' CC				(:35) The Postman

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Construction--- Carpenter, Commercial Window Installer. Exp. a plus. Call 412-551-5326.

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Needed for MR Residential facilities. Will provide oversight management & supervise direct support staff. Vehicle is req'd. Must be able to work flexible hrs. Fax resume & cover letter: **202-526-7631** or email resume to: **sonyab@totalcare1.com**

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DRIVER $—An immediate contract opportunity for 5 couriers for daily deliveries in Washington Metro area. Must have minimum 6 months delivery exp. Must own car, SUV or van. **Call Ray 703-662-2218.**

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wanted with experience and good driving record. Call (240) 304-2610 or (410) 808-4483.

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Distributor of construction products seeks delivery driver for its Chantilly, VA location. Benefits after 3 mos. Please call 703-802-7999 for more info.

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EOE, M/F, D/V

JOBS

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For more detailed information go to http://www.djs.state.md.us. EOE.

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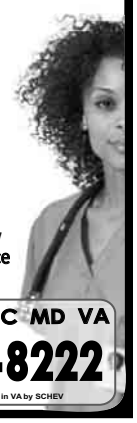

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Fairfax Station—5514 Sandy Folly, Oct 27, 9-3, Multi-family huge variety:furn, sports equip, antique, vintage clothes,LPs, dec & household. Rain date Sun.

Falls Church—Yard Sale - 3442 Sleepy Hollow Rd., Falls Church, VA, October 27, 2007, 703-462-8101

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Rockville—Church Yard Sale 400 Hurley Ave, Oct 27 8:30am - 1 pm, Houswares, toys, furniture, clothes and more! see yardsale.tikls.com

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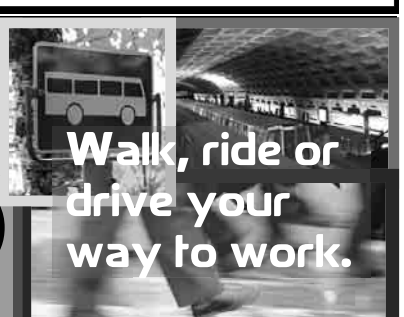

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ALEX/MT. VERNON — Shr lrg non smkg TH. 2 rms each w/ pvt BA. $555 & $635 + 1/3 utils. Prof females pref. N/Pets. 703-780-2016

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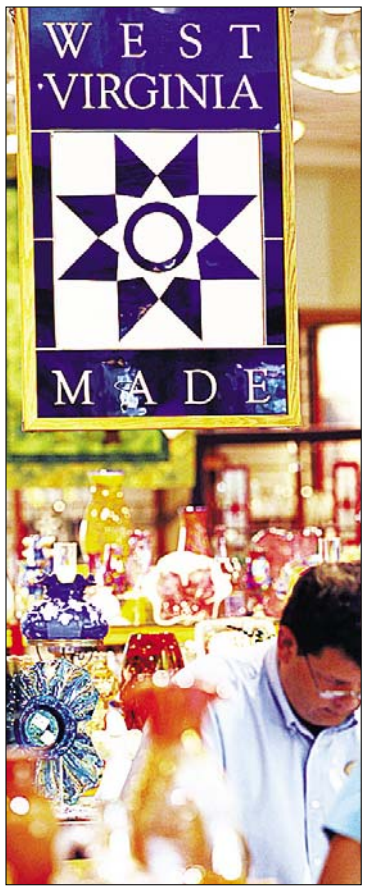
Travel

Tamarack showcases the unique wares of Appalachian artists



JEFF GENTNER/AP

FOLK EXPRESSION: Tamarack sells arts and crafts made by West Virginians, attracting about 500,000 visitors per year. More than 2,800 artists have joined since it opened.

Inspired State

Every year, as part of a family reunion, Jason Hellems and several relatives turn off the West Virginia Turnpike and into Tamarack for what they say is a unique shopping experience.

"We come for iced coffee and candles I get for my mother," said Hellems, of Ypsilanti, Mich.

Standing outside Tamarack's art gallery, he added: "But this is the first place I go."

For 11 years, Tamarack, the state's one-of-a-kind artisan showcase, has lured travelers like Hellems off Interstates 64 and 77, enticing them with its vaguely crown-like architecture — circular, with red points jutting from the roof. From the air, it resembles a traditional quilting star.

Thanks in part to location and being open every day but Christmas, Tamarack is one of the most-visited places in West Virginia, averaging 500,000 guests per year.

"I would say more than half of the people who come through the door have been here before, plan a trip on the way to another destination ... or use this attraction as part of a destination vacation in southern West Virginia," said marketing director Cindy Whitlock.

More than 20,000 items are on display, ranging from roosters made of car parts to jewelry made of cactus fly larva and, naturally, figurines made of coal. And there are items for every budget, including handmade soap, pottery, books and wooden cooking utensils.

Named for a type of tree, Tamarack is the only retail center in the nation for handmade arts and crafts that are juried and not on consignment, Whitlock said. Most artists are paid upfront, at wholesale prices, and their work is sold at retail prices.

The jury process is more about nurturing than judging. Veteran artists offer tips to make pieces more marketable, sometimes recommending mentoring or apprenticeships.

Tamarack was the vision of former Gov. Gaston Caperton, who wanted to keep traditional Appalachian arts and crafts alive and showcase them.

"We had such great artisans across the state, and most of them were so busy selling their goods at state fairs and county fairs they didn't have a chance to practice their art to the degree they could," said Caperton, now president of the College Board in New York. "So, we felt if we could make a tourist attraction, we would be able to, one, help those artisans, and two, create a great tourist attraction. And it really worked."

More than 2,800 artists have joined Tamarack, but the facility usually buys from 800 to 1,100 pieces per year, depending on what's selling well, said deputy general manager Dwight Trent.

> "I usually think of coal miners when I think of West Virginia. This shows what else the state has to offer."
>
> **JOHN GRIMES**, TAMARACK VISITOR

"I didn't know we had this kind of talent in the state," he said. "If nothing else, we have changed the image of West Virginia — or enhanced it to a much larger degree — to the outside world through our people and their products."

Sales have generated more than $78 million in revenue since Tamarack's inception and more than $4 million in state sales tax. The busiest months are June, July, August and October, peak seasons for whitewater rafting, hiking, trail riding and leaf-peeping.

At Tamarack, chefs dish up Appalachian specialties like grilled trout and fried green tomato sandwiches at affordable prices.

"It gives a really good impression of the state in general," said John Grimes, a first-time visitor who dined at Tamarack on a trip from Cleveland back to his home in Raleigh, N.C.

"I usually think of coal miners when I think of West Virginia," Grimes said. "This shows what else the state has to offer."

APRIL VITELLO (AP)

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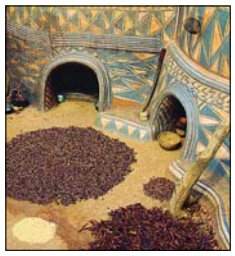
ARCHITECTURE

Lasting Foundations



"Lasting Foundations: The Art of Architecture in Africa," currently at the National Building Museum, is a show about the extreme test of time and its impact on structure. These huts, mosques and palaces have no parallel in modern society. Express contributor Bradford McKee reports. | COMING UP

ENTERTAINMENT

Attention to Detail

The name "Shout Out Louds" once fit the Swedish quintet like a comfy T-shirt. But with its new album, the band sounds more like a group skillfully maneuvering its way through mature melodies. Express' Christopher Porter caught up with singer Adam Olenius. | ONLINE NOW

MUSIC

Life in the Fast Lane

Drive-By Truckers decided to take a break last Halloween, if you call writing three albums of songs and undertaking a semi-acoustic tour a "break." Express contributor Glenn Dixon spoke to Patterson Hood before the Truckers play Rams Head Live in Baltimore on Sunday. | COMING UP

comment board

"I think it would be nice because going 'out' to eat doesn't necessarily mean it's going to be an unhealthy meal. So, if people want to go out and still eat healthy, they can."

COMMENTER PF, WHO ADDED, "IF PEOPLE DON'T CARE, [THEY CAN] IGNORE THE CALORIE COUNTS [LIKE THEY WOULD] ON A PACK OF CHIPS."

"I'd like for restaurants to provide the nutritional information, but definitely wouldn't like for it to be mandated by law."

COMMENTER ME, WHO ADDED, "IF SOME PLACES CHOOSE TO DO THAT — THEN THAT'S APPRECIATED. I DON'T WANT THE GOVERNMENT GETTING INVOLVED, THOUGH."

"No, I really do not want to see the calorie counts on the menu. However, I don't think it would be too much work for restaurant owners to have such information handy when patrons ask for it."

COMMENTER NANOU, RESPONDING TO THURSDAY'S POLL CENTER QUESTION, "WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE RESTAURANTS INCLUDE CALORIE COUNTS ON THEIR MENUS?"

poll center

YESTERDAY'S RESULTS AS OF 5 P.M.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE RESTAURANTS INCLUDE CALORIE COUNTS ON THEIR MENUS?

YES 54% | **NO** 46%

SEE HOW YOUR METRO STATION VOTED AT READEXPRESS.COM/POLLCENTER.PHP

Blog LOG

"As someone who has been mixing high school vocalists for a long time, I can report with certainty that your kid can't sing as well as you think."

MOUNDALEXIS.COM IS TIRED OF THREATENING HIGH SCHOOL STAGE PARENTS, WHO HE FEELS HAVE RUINED YOUTHS' ABILITY TO COPE WITH FAILURE, PARTICULARLY IN SCHOOL PLAY CASTING.

LUCIAN PERKINS/THE WASHINGTON POST

"I live 2.5 miles from where I work. It should not take me as long to get to work via Metro as it does to walk. It just shouldn't. Rain or no."

BLOG-PRINCE.BLOGSPOT.COM IS FED UP WITH METRO'S APPARENT INABILITY TO COPE WITH RAIN, ADDING, "WHY IS IT THAT WITH THE SLIGHTEST BIT OF PRECIPITATION, THE METRO GETS ALL SCREWED UP?"

"THIS IS ONLY a sign of how bad things have gotten: A real Muslim, in [non-Muslims'] minds has to be pro-terror, narrow-[minded], extreme and irrational and has a blood fetish."

TARIQNELSON.COM CAN'T BELIEVE PEOPLE ASK HIM "ARE YOU STILL MUSLIM?" OR "ARE YOU THINKING OF LEAVING ISLAM?"

"THE VALUE OF thank-you notes — handwritten ones — should not be underestimated. Find a local stationer in your community, and go in and get some attractive and professionally printed thank-you notes done."

PHOTOBUSINESSFORUM.BLOGSPOT.COM IS ADAMANT ABOUT THE NECESSITY OF PROFESSIONAL COURTESY.

"YOUR CELLPHONE is a luxury, even if you've kicked the land line to the curb. How do I know? It's taxed 11 percent for being a luxury, according to AT&T."

DC.METBLOGS.COM FEELS CHEATED BY THE DISTRICT'S SEEMINGLY RANDOM TAXES, ADDING, "I CAN UNDERSTAND A 911 FEE, AND SOME REGULATORY FEES, BUT A LUXURY TAX FOR HAVING A CELLPHONE? REALLY?"

Discussions

Marine Marathon

JIM HAGE, a freelance writer and copy editor for The Washington Post and winner of the Marine Corps Marathon in 1988 and '89, was online Thursday to offer advice about this year's race which takes place on Sunday.

Can a recreational jogger go from doing 5ks to training for a marathon distance, or do you need to work your way up in races, say from 5k to 10k to half-marathon?

Marine Corps is noted for the number of first-timers. Something like half the field of 20,000 or so runners are marathon novices. So, plenty of runners have moved up in distance quickly. Of course, some too quickly. There's no shame in racing a 10k or half-marathon, and the half is the fastest growing race by number of participants.

Leave it to the Marines to make the last mile all uphill! How tough is that 1.2 miles going to be?

The last hill is a long-standing tradition, and with the big crowds, really not as bad as you might think. Now the new hill's added this year through Rosslyn. This course could be tough, but the biggest hill is down Spout Run. Be careful not to trash your quads going too fast downhill there early in the race.

How does the Marine Corps Marathon course compare to the N.Y.C. marathon course? I've run New York but not Washington: Which is tougher?

MCM vs. NYC. Well, the D.C. race is much more low-key, less crowded, less self-important. That said, there's nothing like running through Manhattan during the N.Y.C. Marathon. Or over the bridges there, into Central Park. MCM is pretty flat, or it was before this year. But the logistics of running N.Y. make it a whole lot tougher.

TODAY ON DISCUSSIONS: Washington Post staff writer Tarik El-Bashir will be online to take your questions about the Capitals at 2 p.m. | **washingtonpost.com/discussions.**

DO

FEEL FREE TO MAKE CAMPFIRES IN THE SHENANDOAH, Officials at Shenandoah National Park are temporarily lifting fire restrictions, thanks to recent rainfall and cooler temperatures. Park officials say the restrictions were put into place to protect park resources from unwanted fires.

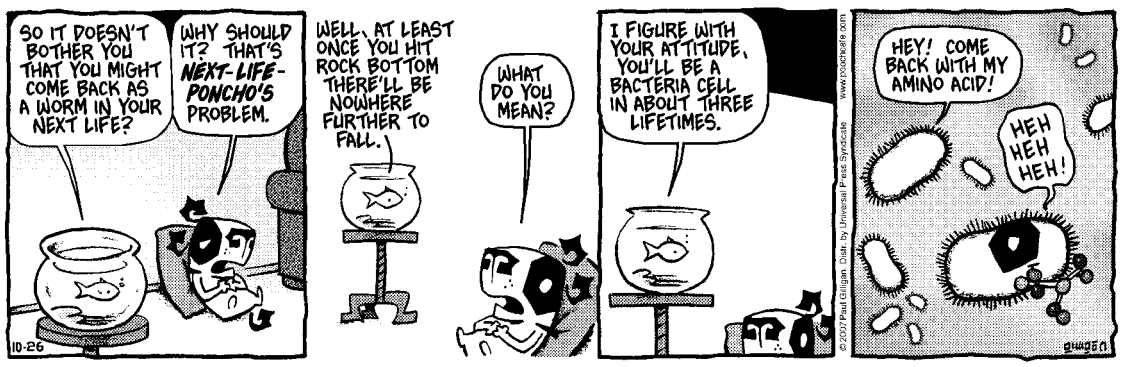
Look out

Bizarro | *Dan Piraro*

Cornered | *Mike Baldwin*

The down side to comedy clubs.

Pooch Cafe | *Paul Gilligan*



Pearls Before Swine | *Stephan Pastis*

The Duplex | *Glenn McCoy*

Horoscope

By Stella Wilder

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Remember at all times that you have a job to do, and you should be able to keep your emotional turmoil from affecting those around you too much.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Someone may be waiting for you to do something wholly out of character — but you are best to hold your ground and avoid overreacting.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) This is a good day to weigh all the pros and cons and come up with a decision regarding a possible career change — or a new strategy.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) What usually happens in given situations isn't likely to prove an accurate guideline. Many changes are taking place; be willing to adjust.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You're in the mood to be pampered in some way, but you're not likely to find such satisfaction at work. Wait until you get home, however.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) You're likely to come up against someone who seems to know you inside and out. Be wary; he or she may simply be trying to call your bluff.

TAURUS (April 20-May 20) Avoid diversions when you know you have work to do. Focus on the things that can get you ahead of the game, and avoid the extraneous.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) It may take you quite some time to get in the mood for whatever responsibilities you have to tend to at this time. Don't take too long.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) You may discover that others are no better off than you are right now, and that you can actually gain the advantage if you act now.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) You may find it difficult to get along with others, as the stars are demanding that you spend more time alone, working on personal issues.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) You may not be able to help someone who is on the other side, but you can get out of the way if you feel his success may prove valuable.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Your own personal style will attract a great many admirers. Take care that you're not sidetracked in any way. Stay on task.

Letters

NASA Thinks With Its Wallet

REGARDING THE ARTICLE "Air Safety Findings Withheld" (Oct. 23), stating that NASA suppressed commercial airlines' safety problems because it could hurt airline profits, is just another glaring example of this administration's propensity to withhold information to help line the pockets of its inner circle of friends or prevent embarrassment at the expense of U.S. citizens. If fewer people fly, they will drive or take the train, which will help the profits in those areas. I think NASA will have to change its motto from, "For the Benefit of All," to "For the Benefit of All Except Americans Who Fly on Commercial Airlines."

—GREGORY CRANSTON
Rockville, Md.

WRITE TO EXPRESS: Include name, hometown and telephone number. Submissions may be edited. E-mail to inbox@readexpress.com or mail to Express Letters, PO Box 17370, Arlington, VA 22216.

Today in History

1774 The First Continental Congress adjourns in Philadelphia.

1881 The "Gunfight at the OK Corral" takes place in Tombstone, Ariz., as Wyatt Earp, his two brothers and "Doc" Holliday confront Ike Clanton's gang. Three members of Clanton's group are killed; Earp's brothers and Holliday are wounded.

1972 National Security Adviser Henry Kissinger declares, "Peace is at hand" in Vietnam.

AP

The Marlins celebrate their 1997 title.

1997 The Florida Marlins become the youngest franchise to win the World Series by defeating the Cleveland Indians in the seventh game.

PostPoints DAILY CODE CM

Look out | People

MJ KIM/GETTY IMAGES

Unless SK-II is good genes and a highly paid stylist, you won't look like this.

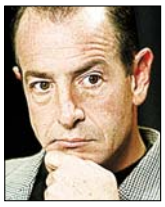
FACES

They Tried for Dylan First, But He Uses Only Clinique

CATE BLANCHETT, who portrays Elizabeth I and Bob Dylan in upcoming films, will be the U.S. face of SK-II, a high-end skin care line from Procter & Gamble Co. She's used SK-II for seven years to keep her skin in its famously good shape: "I'm evangelical about it." (AP)

PRODIGALS

With Reconciliation Comes Cash, Lodging, Gift Baskets



MICHAEL LOHAN wants to patch things up with daughter Lindsay. "Reconciliation and redemption — across the board," says Lohan, a born-again Christian. "Just all of us getting right with God." (AP)

LOUIS LANZONO/AP

FIGHTS

Call It a Solo Tour

FOXY BROWN was given 76 days in punitive segregation at Rikers Island jail after she scuffled with another inmate, authorities said Tuesday. According to New York City's correction department, Brown, 28, was separated from other inmates on Oct. 16. She and another inmate got into a shoving match earlier this month. The cause remains unclear. Neither inmate was injured. (AP)

FINDINGS

Scientists Confirm Discovery Of Lamest Excuse EVER

"I allow a dead, D-list starlet to control my life."

MARIA SHRIVER says she won't resume her TV news career, citing media coverage of the late Anna Nicole Smith. Shriver, speaking at a women's conference, noted the media circus surrounding Smith's death in February. "It was then that I knew that the TV news business had changed and so had I," she said. "I called NBC News and told them I'm not coming back." Shriver took an extended leave from the network when husband Arnold Schwarzenegger ran for governor in 2003. After his victory, she made two appearances as an NBC anchor. (AP)

PHOTOS

'This One Makes Me Look Uneducated and Insensitive!'

HALLE BERRY has apologized for making an inappropriate joke at last Friday's taping of "The Tonight Show." Berry, who showed host Jay Leno photos of herself she had distorted by using software, remarked that one snapshot — in which her nose appeared cartoonishly large — made her "look like my Jewish cousin." "I so didn't mean to offend anybody," Berry explained. (AP)

GUS RUELAS/AP

We couldn't find a Britney pic, so we used one of Lindsay Lohan. Kidding.

RULINGS

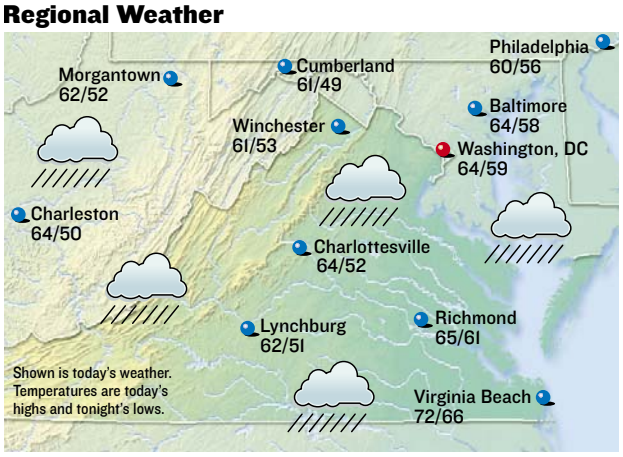
Career Bonfire a Few Degrees Less Scorching

BRITNEY SPEARS avoided a criminal hit-and-run trial by paying for damages in a fender-bender but still faces a charge of driving without a license, a court ruled Thursday. There's a hearing Friday for her custody fight with her ex-husband, Kevin Federline. (AP)

5 Day Forecast for the Washington Area

Today	Tonight	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday
Cloudy, rain, some heavy	Cloudy, rain	Mostly cloudy, rain tapering off	Mostly sunny, breezy	Sunny, cool	Mostly sunny
64°	59°	73° / 51°	67° / 46°	57° / 41°	62° / 48°

Regional Weather



Forecasts and graphics provided by AccuWeather, Inc. ©2007

Almanac

Washington, D.C., through 4 p.m. Thur.

Temperature

High	57°
Low	53°
Normal high	65°
Normal low	46°
Average humidity	87%

Precipitation

24 hours ending 4 p.m.	1.83"
Month to date	2.53"
Normal month to date	2.62"
Year to date	24.17"
Last year to date	39.26"
Normal year to date	32.67"

For up-to-the-minute weather, see: **washingtonpost.com/weather**

Regional Forecast

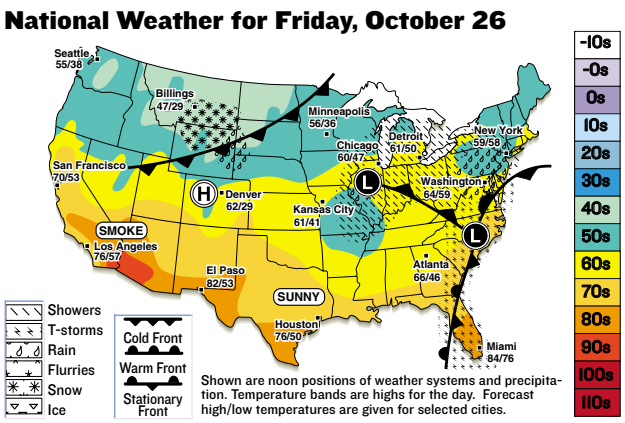
D.C. Metro: Today, cloudy, rain, some heavy. High 64. Wind east 8-16 mph. Tonight, cloudy, rain. Low 59. Wind south 4-8 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise today	7:28 a.m.
Sunset tonight	6:15 p.m.
Moonrise today	6:17 p.m.
Moonset today	8:01 a.m.

Full	Last	New	First
Oct 26	Nov 1	Nov 9	Nov 17

National Weather for Friday, October 26



National Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Atlanta	66/46/pc	70/51/s
Boston	60/52/pc	64/52/r
Chicago	60/47/sh	56/37/c
Dallas	71/48/s	78/52/s
Denver	62/29/s	51/33/pc
Honolulu	85/72/s	85/73/pc
Los Angeles	76/57/pc	76/56/pc
Miami	84/76/t	86/75/t
New York City	59/58/r	69/53/r
Orlando	80/68/t	82/69/t
Seattle	55/38/s	56/40/pc

World Cities

City	Today Hi/Lo/W	Sat. Hi/Lo/W
Amsterdam	49/41/pc	50/41/c
Athens	71/61/s	69/59/pc
Berlin	48/41/c	53/44/pc
Buenos Aires	81/64/s	81/64/s
Calgary	47/27/pc	53/28/s
Dublin	59/46/sh	61/48/pc
Geneva	53/40/c	61/38/pc
Moscow	50/36/pc	48/33/pc
Rome	70/55/sh	72/59/pc
Sydney	72/59/r	79/61/pc
Tokyo	70/63/r	68/54/r

s-sunny, pc-partly cloudy, c-cloudy, sh-showers, t-thunderstorms, r-rain, sf-snow flurries, sn-snow, i-ice.

Puzzles | Look out

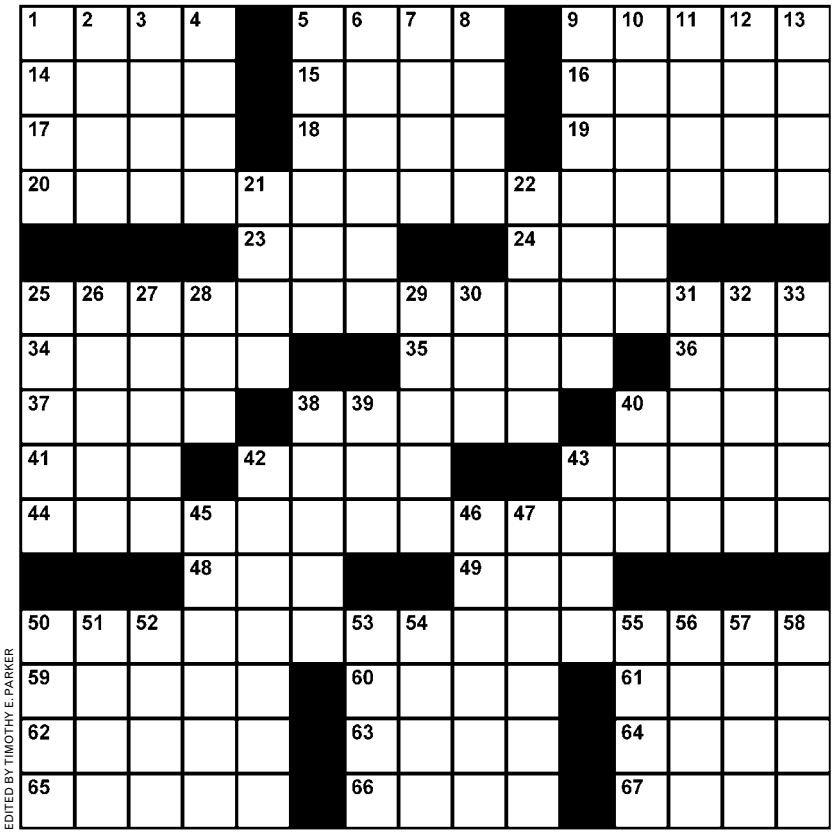
CROSSWORD | WESTBOUND

ACROSS
1 Clog, for example
5 Org. that delivers
9 Cookbook phrase
14 Hot torrent
15 Alexandre Dumas, ___
16 Your twin brother's wife's daughter, to you
17 Open a crack
18 Russian royalty
19 Royal horse-race venue
20 Inheritance?
23 Wow
24 Norris Trophy winner for eight consecutive seasons
25 Partition at 704 Hauser Street?
34 Dunderhead
35 Grad
36 Reine's counterpart
37 Another dunderhead
38 Justicialist South American leader
40 Former filly
41 Traditional Japanese sash
42 "Oh dear!"
43 Biblical tower
44 Something one may do with a football uniform?
48 Supermodel Carol
49 Extinct New Zealand bird
50 Makes entries in travel diary?
59 It originates from the left ventricle
60 Feature of some skirts
61 Prehistoric carnivore, familiarly
62 Some celebrities, to their fans
63 Traditional knowledge
64 Wile E. Coyote's preferred brand
65 CIA director for two presidents
66 Type of architectural arch
67 One of Antarctica's seas

DOWN
1 Side dish, briefly
2 Islamic pilgrim (Var.)
3 Shape runners are attracted to
4 Viscount's superior
5 Chicago entertainment district
6 Six-line stanza
7 Fall preceder
8 Bone-dry
9 Canoe, in relation to ocean
10 Win over by persuasion
11 Prefix with "bel" or "liter"
12 Picture on a desktop
13 Meadowlands team
21 Canter, for one
22 Party-pooperish
25 Lehar's "The Merry ___"
26 Sun-dried clay of the Southwest
27 1993 hurricane
28 Bathroom, in Bath
29 Like an Alaskan winter
30 British rock group of the '70s and '80s, for short
31 Hurler Hideki
32 Oscar-winning actress of "Two Women"
33 Triangular sign
38 They may have many twists
39 Devour
40 Long March king?
42 Minimally
43 Many were burned in the '60s
45 Shake-and roll link
46 Vast enterprise, as in publishing
47 Vandyke's relative
50 Serve entrees, for example
51 Traveled on horseback
52 Wood complement
53 Capital once called Christiania
54 Horsewhip
55 Rating unit
56 Shell alternative
57 Prized possessions
58 Alimony recipients, informally

Yesterday's Solution

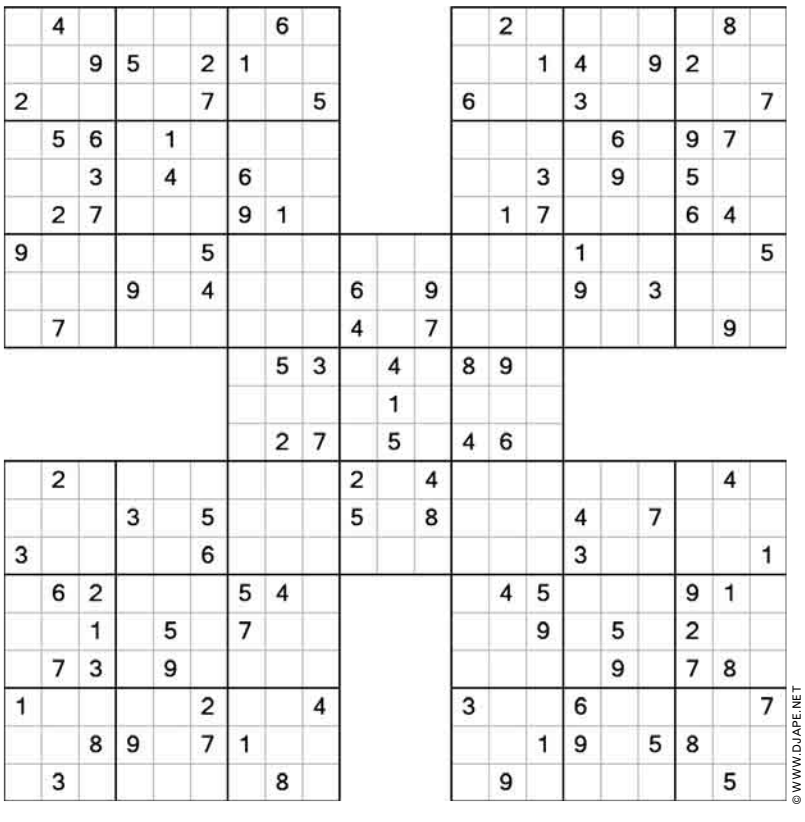
A	L	P	S		A	M	O	R	E		S	K	A	T
P	A	R	T		N	O	V	A	S		O	N	C	E
S	W	O	R	D	G	R	A	S	S		B	I	L	L
E	N	D	U	R	E	S		H	A	T	E	F	U	L
				D	A	R	E		Y	O	R	E		
A	S	S	E	T	S		C	L	I	O		B	A	R
C	O	A	L			J	O	I	S	T		O	N	O
T	U	B		C	R	A	V	A	T	S		A	N	T
U	S	E		L	E	V	E	R			T	R	I	O
P	A	R		A	F	A	R		S	E	E	D	E	R
		T	A	R	E			S	O	R	E			
G	R	O	C	E	R	Y		H	U	R	T	L	E	S
R	O	O	M		R	A	Z	O	R	S	H	A	R	P
A	N	T	E		E	L	I	T	E		E	M	I	R
B	A	H	S		D	U	P	E	D		D	E	N	Y



EDITED BY TIMOTHY E. PARKER

SAMURAI SUDOKU | HARD

Fill in each column, row and 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9 without repeating any. The twist in Samurai Sudoku is that the digits that appear in the overlapping boxes must work for both puzzles. A piece of advice to get you started: Don't focus on completing one grid at a time. Keep the whole puzzle in mind as you go, because filling in a number in one grid could give you clues to another.



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Last Week's Solution

8	3	2	4	9	1	5	7	6
7	1	9	2	5	6	3	8	4
4	5	6	3	7	8	2	9	1
5	4	1	7	8	9	6	3	2
9	7	3	6	4	2	8	1	5
2	6	8	1	3	5	9	4	7
1	9	5	8	2	7	4	6	3
6	2	4	9	1	3	7	5	8
3	8	7	5	6	4	1	2	9

4	5	7	6	8	3	9	2	1
2	6	1	4	5	9	3	7	8
8	9	3	7	1	2	4	5	6
5	3	4	8	6	1	7	9	2
6	7	2	9	3	4	8	1	5
9	1	8	2	7	5	6	3	4
7	8	9	5	2	6	1	4	3
1	2	6	3	4	7	5	8	9
3	4	5	1	9	8	2	6	7

5	2	1	3	4	6	8	1	5
3	4	9	9	8	1	7	3	2
6	7	8	2	7	5	9	6	4
6	3	4	7	9	2	8	3	1
1	4	3	5	8	9	2	7	6
3	4	5	2	6	1	9	5	8
1	9	8	7	5	6	3	4	2

2	6	3	7	8	1	5	9	4
7	8	1	4	5	9	6	3	2
4	5	9	2	3	6	8	1	7
3	2	5	8	9	4	7	6	1
1	4	6	3	2	7	9	5	8
9	7	8	1	6	5	2	4	3
5	1	2	6	4	8	3	7	9
6	3	4	9	7	2	1	8	5
8	9	7	5	1	3	4	2	6

2	8	9	6	1	7	2	3	4
5	6	4	9	8	1	5	6	2
7	4	1	5	6	2	3	9	8
8	3	6	9	4	7	1	5	2
5	2	9	3	1	8	6	7	4
3	7	4	6	9	1	8	2	5
9	8	5	4	2	3	7	1	6
1	6	2	8	7	5	9	4	3

CLASSIC SUDOKU | HARD

	5	3						6
		1	6	8				
2					1			
	1			5	9			
	4	2				9	6	
			3	6			4	
			8					1
				7	5	4		
7						6	2	

© PUZZLES BY PAPPOCOM

Yesterday's Solution

8	7	5	4	1	6	9	2	3
2	4	1	3	8	9	5	6	7
3	9	6	2	7	5	8	1	4
1	6	4	8	5	2	3	7	9
7	2	9	1	3	4	6	5	8
5	3	8	6	9	7	1	4	2
9	5	3	7	4	1	2	8	6
6	1	7	9	2	8	4	3	5
4	8	2	5	6	3	7	9	1

Fill in the boxes so each row, column and 3-by-3 square includes the digits 1 through 9. For solution, tips and computer program, see www.sudoku.com

Need more Su|do|ku?
Find another Sudoku puzzle in the Comics section of the Post every Sunday and in the Style section Monday through Saturday.

express

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For the hometown Virginia and Maryland value you've been waiting for, don't miss The Great Price Rollback this weekend only from Ryland Homes. With below market financing and no money down programs plus **$15,000 or more in free options**, now you can afford a Ryland home. And with **all closing costs paid**, you don't need a lot of cash.*

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- **Luxury condominiums from $256,990 at Market Center including 2 finished levels & a 1-car garage!**

VIRGINIA

FAIRFAX COUNTY

East Market at Fair Lakes
Townhome-style condominiums
2 level, 1-car garage from $399,990
(800) 961-7148
I-66 E. to Rte. 7100 Fairfax County Pkwy. N. (Exit 55). Rt. onto Fair Lakes Pkwy. to comm. on Rt.

Centreville Crossing
Townhome-style condominiums
2 level, 1-car garage from $338,990
(888) 834-9621
I-66 W. to Rte. 29 (Exit 52) toward Centreville. Left on Rte. 29 N. to Rt. on Machen Rd. Rt. on Saint Germain Dr. to sales trailer on the Left.

PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY

Market Center in Haymarket
Luxury condominiums
2 level, 1-car garage from $256,990
(866) 712-1382
I-66 W. to US 15 N. (Exit 40). Go 1/4 mi. to comm. on Left.

STAFFORD COUNTY

Courthouse Square in Stafford
Attached single family homes from $298,990
(800) 961-7089
I-95 S. to Courthouse Rd. (Exit 140). Turn Left and go 1/2 mi. to Left. on Red Oak Dr. to sales office on Left.

Carriage Hills in Falmouth
Luxury single family homes
2,534 sq. ft. from $324,990
(800) 961-7129
I-95 S. to Rte. 17 E. (Exit 133). Go 1.5 mi. to Left on Rte. 1 to Left on Truslow Rd. to comm. on Left.

Battleground Estates at Celebrate Virginia
1-acre estates - 3,530 sq. ft. from $495,990
(800) 961-7124
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I-66 W. to I-81 S to Rte. 11 S (Exit 298). Turn Rt. on John Marshall Hwy. (Rt. 55). 1 mi. on Left.

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Styles

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DECORATE AND OTHERWISE IMPROVE YOURSELF AND YOUR HOME

PLUS: Wolfgang Puck on pancakes, Oscar parties and his new D.C. joint | E2

ROCK THE COAT

FAUX FUR JACKETS, JEWEL-TONE PUFFERS & OTHER CHIC WAYS TO KILL THE CHILL E4

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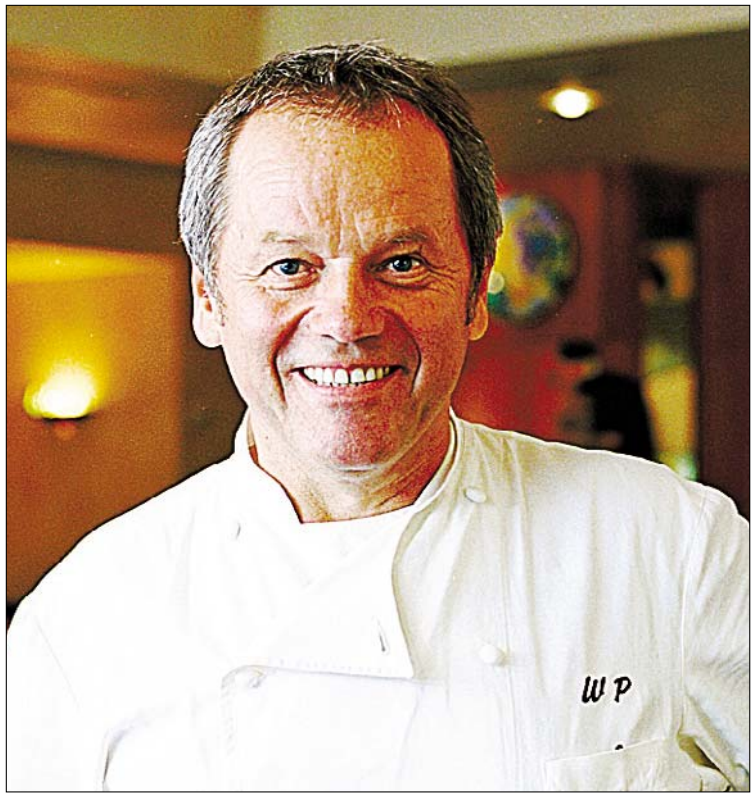

Wolfgang Puck

CHEF, PIZZA PIONEER, MESSY PANCAKE MAKER

Behind Wolfgang Puck's pearly grin is a man who's taken a huge bite out of the culinary world. The first celebu-chef, Puck is the force powering multiple Cali-cool restaurants, a line of kitchen equipment and many cookbooks. He sinks his teeth into D.C. with the Source, a sleek new Euro-meets-Asia restaurant and lounge (575 Pennsylvania Ave. NW; 202-637-6100) at the soon-to-open Newseum.

Why did you choose D.C. for your newest restaurant?
D.C. chose us. The people from the Newseum came to us. We saw it was a good location and a good opportunity. There have been a lot of changes in the restaurant scene in Washington. There used to be just old-style restaurants. Now there are more new, modern restaurants.

There's a catering component to your company. What's the most difficult event you've catered?
The most difficult are the ones that are off-premises. You're cooking for a lot of people in a new kitchen. The fourth time we catered the Oscar party, it was in a new ballroom. The electricity went off as we were cooking the main course. We had cooked enough for 500 people but still had 1,000 to feed.

What's your idea of a good party?
I don't like to have too many people. I like to have one long table of up to 20 people so you can talk to everyone. I like interesting wines and food. At home, I have 12 or 14 people. It's easier that way. I serve things like chestnut soup with black truffles and risotto with porcini mushrooms.

What is your favorite thing to cook at home?
I love to go to the market on Sunday with my 2-year-old son. We buy all the veggies and fruits. Then we grill the veggies and chicken or fish. I pick up dessert at Spago because it's right nearby. And we open up a bottle of Pinot Noir.

> "Food is not strange. I've eaten everything — chicken feet, chicken testicles."

Which chefs do you admire?
I'm friends with most of the chefs that are well-known. They are all known for different things. Raymond Thuilier at L'Oustau de Baumaniere was my biggest inspiration when I was younger.

Do you have a fave kitchen gadget?
We have a line of our own appliances. I use the grill and griddle the most. In the morning, I make pancakes. Later, I turn it over and grill. When I cook, I make such a mess. This is simple and easy to clean.

What's the strangest thing you've eaten?
To me, food is not strange. I've eaten everything — chicken feet, chicken testicles. I always try and taste everything.

There's a wellness component to your company. Why?
I really believe it's important to consider what we put into our bodies. And I like to help people who are trying to do the right thing. It might be more expensive, but it tastes better.

You eat and cook a lot of good food — how do you stay in shape?
I walk a lot. I have two dogs, and I live in Los Angeles. I walk up and down the hills. It's 40 minutes to the top and 30 minutes down. I don't take my phone, so I can just think.

You've opened so many restaurants — what's the secret?
A restaurant is only as good as its people. I have really great partners. We're a big family. The secret is the people. I don't open unless I have the people.

Do you get nervous when you open a new place?
Always. I think no one will come.

KELLY DINARDO

goods | Styles

Grab Bag

3 Go off the Cheap End

FOREVER 21 — ripper-off of runway looks, clothier of trendy teens and maker of $2 rings that often pass for Chanel — recently launched a new "couture" line, Twelve by Twelve. Slightly higher priced and decidedly better-quality pieces range from cropped coats ($69) and swingy mini-dresses to groovy, '70s-ish tees ($18). Find it all at Forever21.com/twelve.

2 A Nude Attitude

A BIG HIT IN BRITAIN, the Nude skin care line ($34-$100, Barneys.com) has more eco-cred than Al Gore's compost bin. Many of the ingredients are organic; dodgy chemicals like parabens and sulphates are notably absent. The recyclable packaging is printed in non-toxic ink (but don't lick it, just to be safe).

4 For Trick Or Sweet

TOMBSTONE-SHAPED SHEET CAKES and candies that look like eyeballs are all fine and ghoul. But for Halloween parties that evoke Martha, not Marilyn Manson, a Great Pumpkin Pan ($32, Williams-sonoma.com) turns out a cake mimicking a wholesome gourd. Whether you frost it with blood-red icing is your call.

1 Noise in the Wood

THE ONLY WAY the Vers 2x wood sound system could look sharper is if it didn't have an iPod (or iPhone) sticking out of it. But that's the point. So, disrupt its swoopy symmetry with your crass music device; mar the cherry veneer cabinet's flawless beauty with the soul-sucking plastic facade of modern technology. ($179, see Versaudio.com for stores)

dear manolo

ANSWERS FROM THE SHOEBLOGGER

The library in my little Maine town is having a fundraising ball. I have secured a very nice gown, but my L.L. Bean gum boots just don't go. — AMBER

■ Manolo says, this question points out the serious problem: How does one maintain super-fantasticness in the small town? This is doubly true in this era of complete casualness, when we can meet with our bankers, accountants and lawyers in their Casual Friday cut-offs and muscle shirts.

"Oh, this tattoo of copulating unicorns? I got it when I spent the summer after law school working as a carny."

So, what must one do? Fight the power! Just because one lives in coastal Maine or rural Kansas, it does not mean that one cannot dress up to the nines when presented with the slightest excuse. Church social? Chanel! County fair? Burberry! Zoning meeting? Balenciaga! And for the library ball? The Romancemid from Stuart Weitzman ($285, Zappos.com).

@ Ask the Manolo a question at manolo@shoeblogs.com. Visit the Manolo at shoeblogs.com.

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Styles | fashion

IT'S FUN TO DRESS UP A PUFFER WITH A HEEL OR WEAR A PEACOAT WITH JEANS.

One

PARKA SERVICE

Equally at home on the slopes or on the streets of SoHo, LaRedoute's grape jam-colored puffer ($25, Usredoute.com) sweetens up a T-shirt by Supermaggie ($45, Proper Topper, 1350 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-842-3055) and wide-legged Anlo jeans ($198, South Moon Under, 2700 Clarendon Blvd., Arlington; 703-807-4083). Accessories — a wool newsboy cap ($46, Proper Topper), long gloves ($70, Proper Topper), a metallic leather belt ($80, Betsy Fisher, 1224 Connecticut Ave. NW; 202-785-1975) and wooden earrings ($4.80, Forever 21) — add warmth and a dose of disco-era flair.

Three

HOT FUZZ

Marilyn Monroe, Greta Garbo and Elizabeth Taylor all swished through movies and sashayed down red carpets in mink coats, fox stoles and the like. These days, the finest fur is faux, as in Juicy Couture's soft-as-a-kitten swing coat ($448, Neiman Marcus, Tysons Galleria; 703-761-1600). Though it makes a glamorous foil for jeans, this baby really puts on the ritz partnered with Splendid's metallic T-shirt dress ($137, South Moon Under), Gerard Tosca's mirror and rhinestone necklace and faceted ring ($168 and $75, South Moon Under), Poetic License's red patent shoes ($79, ShoeFly, 2620 Wilson Blvd., Arlington; 703-243-6490) and a rhinestone-studded clutch ($28, ShoeFly).

ON THE COVER

Taylor wears a Beth Bowley coat ($380, Betsy Fisher) and Sayami gloves (Proper Topper). Hair and makeup by Richard Bernal, T.H.E. Artist Agency. Model T.H.E. Artist Agency. Photo by Marge Ely.

Warmed & Dangerous

ONE COAT USED TO be enough to make you a wrap star all winter. But this season's wide range of snugglers means you might have to clear out some space in the hall closet. Shorter, spunkier cover-ups range from movie star-style faux furs to tweed numbers fit for walks around the lochs. "Peacoats and swing jackets are also very popular — they're playful and move well," says Abby Baine Dunn, women's buyer for Activeendeavors.com. When topping off an outfit, there aren't really any rules. "I think it's fun to dress up a puffer with a cute heel or wear a peacoat with jeans and running shoes," says Dunn. But to be really frost-fighting, any coat needs to cozy up to hats, scarves and gloves, too. Au courant accessories — elbow-length hand warmers, flapper-inspired cloche caps — ensure neither you, nor your fashion sense, will be left out in the cold. JENNIFER BARGER (EXPRESS)

A LITTLE BIT BRIT

Tweed isn't just meant for Prince Charles and his grouse-shooting expeditions. Borne's Royal Peacoat ($594, Activeendeavors.com) goes beyond the tea-and-crumpets set via its cheeky, young cut and shapely pockets. It adds sass to Robert Rodriguez's high-waisted, wide-legged wool pants ($330, Neiman Marcus, Tysons Galleria), Vertical Design's cashmere cowl-neck sweater ($80, Filene's Basement) and simple knit gloves ($10, ShoeFly).

two

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Event Horizon

In the Dinner Circle

Park Avenue-style plaid table skirts, Chinese pewter plates, red crystal goblets and napkins decked with Picasso prints are among the stylin' dining room wares glitzing up the Women's Club of Chevy Chase during **NSO CELEBRATIONS**. In a benefit for the National Symphony Orchestra, 20 interior designers created glam table settings and room vignettes. Trends like neo-Baroque and minimalism show up in what amounts to a high-end DIY tutorial for Turkey Day tables and yuletide decor. Seminars ($10 each) cover topics like flower arranging and color combining. (7931 Connecticut Ave., Chevy Chase; Oct. 25, noon-5 p.m.; Oct. 26-27, 10 a.m.-7 p.m.; Oct. 28, noon-4 p.m. Admission $15-$20; info at Kennedy-center.org/celebrations.

A quick read on the day's news.

Be sure to grab your copy of Express at the bright yellow news racks around town.

And don't miss our weekly special sections

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B.I.O.

BY INVITATION ONLY: UPCOMING WEDDINGS & UNIONS

Julie Kim, Richard Marlowe

Julie, 28, is a CPA. Richard, 27, is an engineer. They will live in Bethesda.

■ **The Main Event:** A full Mass and ceremony on Nov. 10 at a chapel in Baltimore. "Julie played the piano for me there on one of our early dates," says Richard. A reception follows at a Victorian mansion.

■ **Honeymoon:** Aruba. "Can't wait to relax," says Richard. "I just have to bring some SPF 100 so I don't get burned."

■ **How They Met:** Match.com. "The only way for an engineer to find a girlfriend is to put them in a searchable database," says Richard.

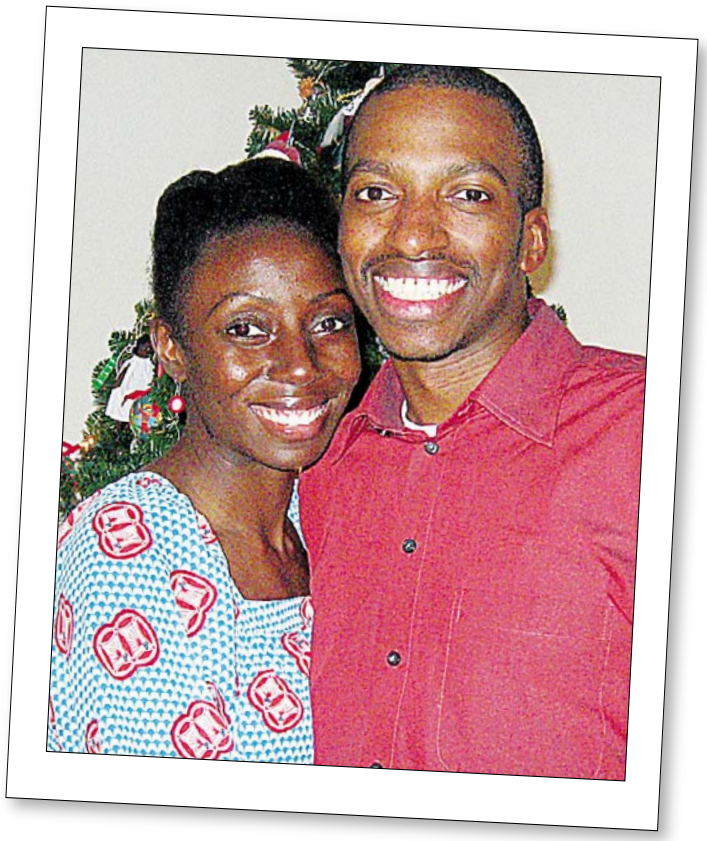
■ **First Date:** Sushi at Taipei Tokyo on a snowy day. "Rich offered to clean off my car. He was such a gentleman."

■ **How He Proposed:** On a pier in Key West. "She said, 'You've got to be kidding me,'" recalls Richard. "I was completely caught off guard," says Julie. "I said that with the biggest smile on my face."

■ **Their Song:** Lifehouse's "You and Me." "We saw them at State Theatre early in our relationship," says Richard.

■ **Stupidest Fight:** "She found an old package sent to me by an ex and didn't realize it was postmarked well before we met," says Richard. "I overreacted," admits Julie, "but up until that point, he seemed too good to be true."

"I didn't date a lot, and he really seemed too good to be true."

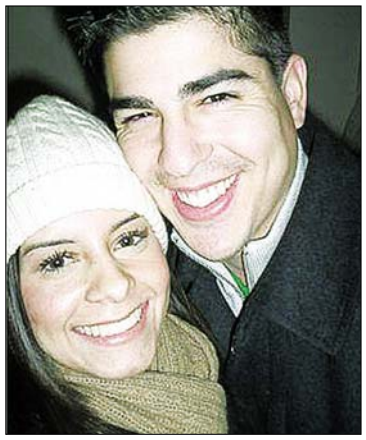


I Give Thanks for You

When it comes to Thanksgiving, **FLORENCE KASULE** and **PERRY PAYNE JR.** have a lot to be thankful for: It's how they met. "I was wondering who in the world this extremely nice guy was," says Florence of the meal at a friend's house. Their first date is a point of contention: "We went to an African dance performance, then dinner at Zola," recalls Florence. "I swear I asked her out to Olive Garden after she taught a dance class," counters Perry.

At least "Lil' Flo" and "Sweet P" agree they'll wed on Nov. 5. in the Virgin Islands. Florence will walk down the beachy aisle in a strapless pale pink Romona Keveza gown to the strumming of a classical guitar. The "island chic" ceremony will include English and Lugandan vows to honor her Ugandan heritage. Tables will be named for Ugandan and Southern foods, like matoke (mashed bananas) and sweet potato pie.

Florence, 31, is an assistant director at George Washington University's International Services Office. Perry, 34, is an assistant research professor at GW. They live in D.C.



Melanie Bujanda, Steven Romero

Melanie, 25, is a public health analyst. Steve, 28, is a nuclear engineer. They live in Dupont Circle.

■ **The Main Event:** A semiformal gathering on the shores of Ixtapa-Zihuatanejo, Mexico, on Nov. 10. Melanie will walk to the strumming of a harp. The groomsmen and dads are wearing traditional Mexican guayaberas.

■ **How They Met:** At a college pub while students at New Mexico State University. "She was taken, but I kept talking to her anyway," says Steve.

■ **First Impressions:** Steve was "drawn by Melanie's exotic eyes." Melanie thought his were "mysterious."

■ **When He Knew:** The pair didn't date but kept in touch after college, then fell back in love during Steve's six-month submarine deployment. He knew for sure "when I first laid eyes on her on the pier — it was the first time I'd seen her in three years."

■ **How He Proposed:** On a picnic at the Tidal Basin during the Cherry Blossom Festival. "I was very nervous, but I had some good bling for her."

■ **Celebrating Heritage:** The couple will honor their deceased grandparents and Melanie's late twin sister.

Getting Married? If you'd like to see your wedding or commitment ceremony in B.I.O., send your favorite informal photograph (wacky is fine, but please don't send a formal engagement shot), plus your names and ceremony date to weddings@readexpress.com. Please contact us at least one month before your wedding. We'll get back to you with some questions as your big day approaches.

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The Loan Arranger

How to get a mortgage for that new Petworth loft or Dupont studio | E2

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A 20-something design blogger digs up stylish bargains in N.Y.C. | E9

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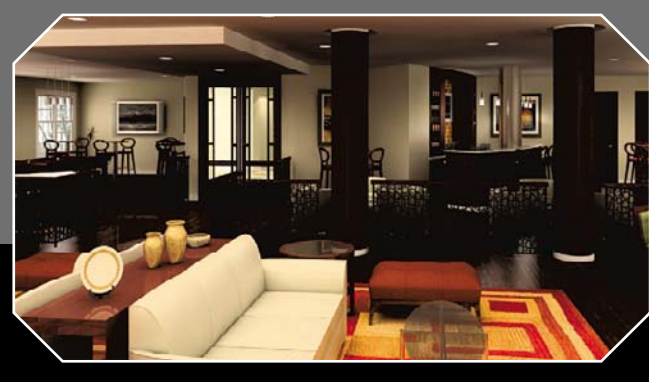

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Finding Yourself a Loan

In the current real estate market, a good mortgage can be hard to get

If you're contemplating putting a down payment on a condo in this admittedly buyer's market, the current headlines about loans could give you second thoughts — or whiplash. Subprime mortgage companies are going belly-up. Buyers who went for ARMs (adjustable rates mortgages) are finding themselves with sky-high monthly payments or worse, defaulting on their loans.

And while it's true that the days of qualifying for a huge mortgage merely required just being alive and employed, most experts think that getting both a home and a mortgage remains problem-free. "[For] people with good credit, it's just as easy to get a loan now as it was 10 years ago," assures Ray Hrabec, a vice president at SunTrust Mortgage in Vienna, Va.

But what exactly does good credit mean? Before you start house hunting or go online to calculate how big a monthly payment you can get preapproved for, check out your credit score. Annualcreditreport.com allows users one free report per year from each of the nationwide consumer credit reporting companies — TransUnion, Equifax and Experian. You can even play the system a bit by requesting a report from a different company every few months. Depending on your need to raise your score, you may want to repeat the process the next year before applying for a mortgage.

To increase your likelihood of getting a good interest rate, you'll need a credit score of 680 or above, says Gary Eldred, author of "106 Mortgage Secrets All Borrowers Must Learn — But Lenders Don't Tell" (Wiley, $18).

Eldred's book doles out tips like Secret #44, which advises using just a few credit cards regularly (but not maxing them out) and paying off their balances every month. Other pros will tell you it's never too late to try to bump that number up a bit, but improving a low score doesn't happen overnight. Check out Myfico.com for more tips on upping your score. The maximum score is 850 — but no one ever gets that. "You don't see a lot over 800, because people have debt," Hrabec says. "If you have a lot of consumer debt, that drives it down."

If you have a healthy credit score, go online or call a lender to find out how much you can afford. A general rule of thumb is that your monthly mortgage payment shouldn't be more than a third of your gross monthly household income. So, if Joe and Suzie Homehunter want a flat that's going to cost them $4,000 per month, they'd better be pulling in a cool $12,000 per month — or come up with a hefty down payment.

When shopping for a mortgage, you shouldn't necessarily go with the first quote. In his book, Eldred points out that lenders can't tell you how much you can borrow. They can only tell you how much they can lend you — a subtle but important distinction.

> "You can't walk into the office and say, 'I'm a deadbeat. Can I have a loan?'"
>
> **GARY ELDRED**, REAL ESTATE EXPERT

So, shop around for the offers that work best for you. Check with all the big-name banks and ask what they are willing to do for your business. Some offer to help with closing costs, which is no small thing, or offer cash back you can put toward that flat-screen, HD TV that'd look swell on the wall of your new Herndon loft.

And watch for fly-by-night banks. "Select a lender that is big and is going to be around," Hrabec advises. "Don't go with an unknown." Smaller companies are more at risk of going bust because they lack the capital to finance the loans themselves, and the market for loans has dried up.

Also, be prepared to prove your worth as a buyer. Typically, a lender will ask to see your W2 forms going back two years, your two most recent pay stubs and two most recent bank statements. If you're self-employed or are in some other unusual situation, you will need to provide evidence of a steady income in the form of tax returns.

To secure lower monthly payments, any amount of down payment you can provide helps, and more is always better. However, if your savings account is empty, don't despair. The Federal Housing Association offers loans with nothing down. But you still have to prove your ability to make payments, Eldred says. "You can't walk into the office and say, 'I'm a deadbeat. Can I have a loan?'"

While it's just as easy for a borrower with good credit to qualify for a loan now as in the recent past, it's more difficult to secure an interest-only loan, warns Hrabec. That's because you have to qualify as if you're planning to pay interest and principal. Such loans typically feature lower monthly payments and are popular among buyers whose properties are anticipated to increase in value quickly or buyers who don't plan to stay in their property long enough — say, more than five years — to make a dent on the principal. In the first few years, most or all of your monthly payment goes toward the interest anyway.

An interest-only loan is only one of many types of mortgage products available. Suntrustmortgage.com has handy charts detailing various mortgages and offering tips on the type of buyer who would benefit from each. For example, 10- to 40-year fixed-rate loans are good for borrowers with "less-than-perfect credit."

Approved amount in hand, it's finally time for you to check out potential new digs. You want to find a property you like quickly, within one or two months, because you aren't guaranteed the rate the lender is offering until 60 days before you close. This usually isn't a problem for buyers of completed condo complexes, but if the high-rise that catches your eye is still under construction, factor that into your decision.

You'll need to show lenders tax forms, pay stubs and bank statements to secure a loan.

Sid Stolz, a 46-year-old who splits his time between Miami, Fla., and the District, is learning the hard way how an unfinished complex can keep a good rate just out of reach. This summer, the recently retired chief marketing officer of CVS Caremark, a pharmacy benefit manager, signed a contract with the Metropole, a luxury condo/retail complex in Logan Circle that isn't due for completion until late summer 2008. "I got quotes from [the complex's preferred lenders] but the quotes are non-binding," Stolz says. At 6.25 percent, one of his quoted rates seems affordable, but at this point there's not much he can do besides wait until the complex is closer to completion and hope that rate is still available.

Some lenders offer the option to cap a stellar rate. If you have 1 percent of the selling price to plunk down out of pocket, you can guarantee a rate no higher than 1 percent above your quoted rate until it's time to close. "If rates are going to go through the roof, it's a good thing to spend your money on," says Hrabec. Although he adds that in today's market, it's probably not necessary, since rates aren't expected to rise

CONTINUED ON E4

MARGE ELY/EXPRESS

Ray Hrabec of SunTrust Mortgage helps a client get a loan. Hrabec says those with good credit should land mortgages easily.

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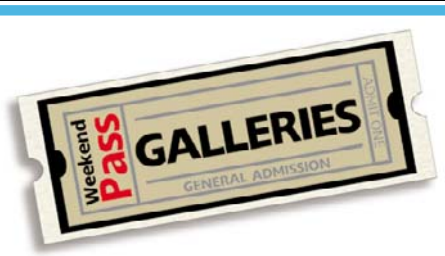

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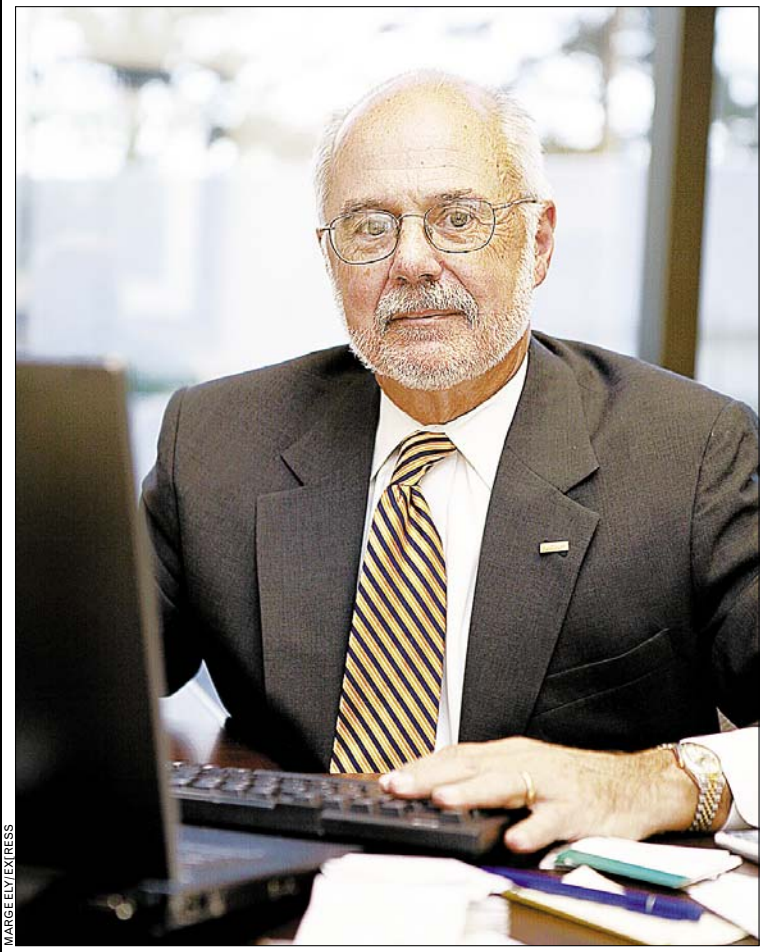

MARGE ELY/EXPRESS

Ray Hrabec of SunTrust Mortgage cautions against interest-only home loans.

Loan Rangers

CONTINUED FROM E3

that much in the near future.

No lender offered such a deal to Stolz, who is praying to the mortgage gods that an appealing rate is on the table come next summer. His is a cautionary tale, and all the more reason to do a bit of research so you're aware of your options.

When touring potential abodes, always ask how many renters are in the complex, advises Eldred. If the building is made up of more than 40 or 50 percent renters, finding a lender might be more difficult because Fannie Mae or Freddie Mac — the two main companies that purchase mortgages from lenders — won't buy the loan. Investors—buyers who rent out their property—are more likely to walk away from an investment and default on the loan than resident owners.

And don't assume you're home free just because the percentage is slightly less. "If the ratio tips, the owner may have trouble selling," Eldred warns.

If you fall in love with a place whose price tag exceeds the amount you've been approved for, talk with your employer says Eldred in "106 Mortgage Secrets." If your company participates in Fannie Mae's Magnet program, it may offer perks such as lower interest rates and help with a down payment.

Along the same lines, if your lender isn't convinced you can afford your monthly payment, try calling in that huge favor your lobbyist brother owes you. A co-signer — someone who promises to pay the mortgage if you can't — could strengthen your profile enough to move you out of the "maybe" pile into the "approved" pile, Eldred says in Secret #12.

If you find a castle that fits all your criteria (and your budget), head back to your lender, let him or her know your settlement date (typically decided by seller and/or buyer) and lock in a rate. From the time you get approved to when you get your keys typically takes about 30 days, and this is not the time to put that $50,000 Rolex you've been eyeing on your Amex.

"You don't want to go out and buy a car or piece of furniture," says Eldred. "And you certainly don't want to change jobs or take maternity leave." In short, don't do anything that would affect your credit report until you're relaxing in your new digs, signed deed to the property in hand. SARA KRUGER

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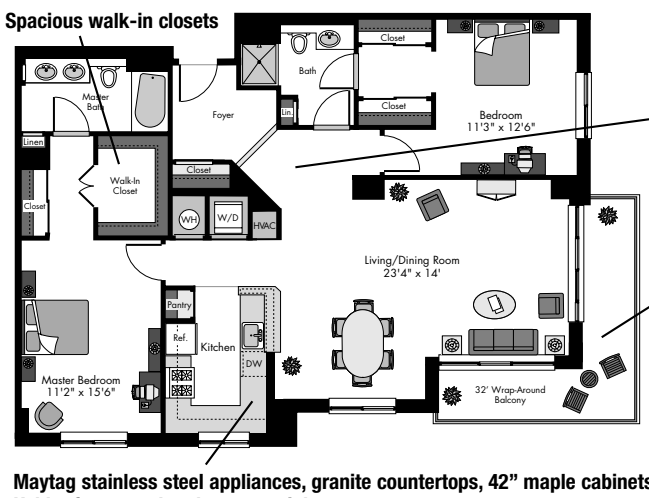

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On HGTV's "Property Virgins," agent Sandra Rinomato assists newbie buyers.

Mistress of The Hunt

Sandra Rinomato helps the young and clueless buy homes on HGTV

Closing costs. Mortgage rates. Whether your college futon is going to fit in that spanking-new studio. There's a long, long list of things that first-time home buyers need to consider before signing on the dotted line. The trials and rewards of newbie house hunters are chronicled on the HGTV show "Property Virgins," (Sunday, 10 p.m.), which recently began its first season on HGTV. In it, host Sandra Rinomato — a chatty Canadian real estate broker who has sold hundreds of homes since she got into the biz 12 years ago — takes first-time buyers on property treks. In the process, she gives viewers an eyeful and earful of home-getting advice.

Q+A

What are the typical characteristics of a property virgin?

Fear. A lot of times they buy into the real estate myth. It can be a variety of things, really: how to negotiate a contract to what kind of house to buy to how much to pay for your first house or when to buy. Everybody seems to be talking about real estate in North America. Because it's such a cocktail party topic, you

CONTINUED ON E8

THE CONDOMINIUMS AT

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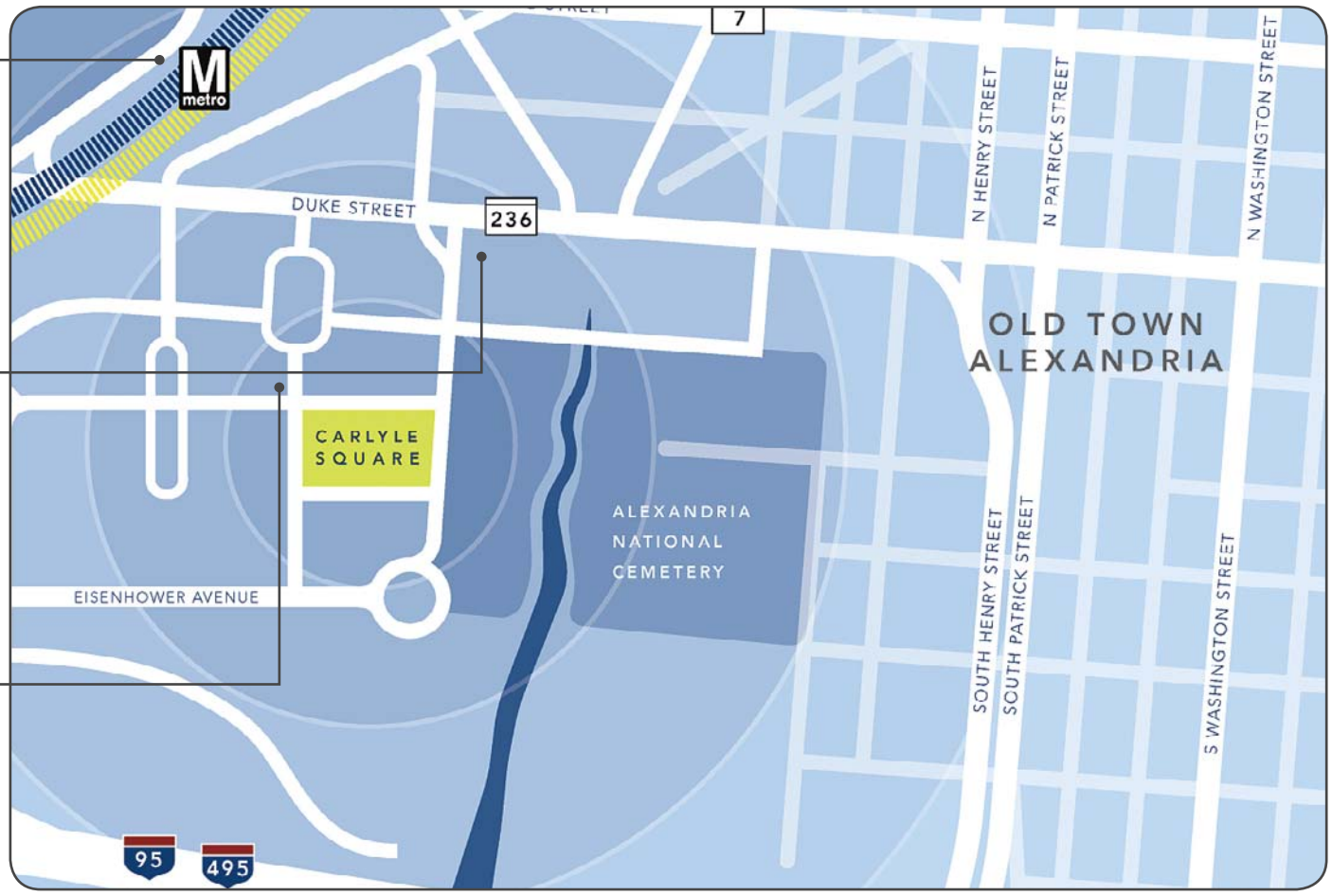

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Property Virgins

CONTINUED FROM E6

can pick up erroneous information. What worked for one guy isn't necessarily a principle you should apply in every situation, because every situation is unique.

So, something like, "Oh you should never buy a condo," or "You should never pay more than $200,000 for your first property" — sometimes they're just crazy things. They're totally generalized and usually coming from people who don't know what they're talking about.

Ever work with know-it-alls?

I like working with first-timers, because it becomes pretty clear to them early on in the conversation that the Realtor knows way more than they can ever hope to know. You usually don't get that cocky person who thinks they know it all. However, they are out there. I think that kind of person is not using a Realtor, and just surfing online and thinking they're getting everything they need to know about house-buying. That is so wrong.

I tried to buy a digital camera online. I know nothing about cameras, but I thought, "How hard can it be?' It was about three minutes into that I realized, 'I know nothing about what I need and what the capabilities of these cameras are." For a $300 purchase, I decided to go talk to a live person and an expert. Why would you spend $300,000 without doing that?

What are the common mistakes property virgins make?

Trying to get the house their parents had right out of the gate ... not understanding it's a stepping stone. It's just a foot in the door, an alternative to renting and a place to build equity. What they want to do is get their mansion. The mistake they make is they try to get it all right now. They're being unrealistic in their demands of a house. Like a single person buying a house wanting three bedrooms — I don't know why they would want that. "I need a bedroom in case somebody comes over." Well is that person going to help you pay the mortgage?

Fold-out couches are nice.

Yeah, exactly! And kids can share a bedroom. From that to, "Well, it doesn't have a fireplace.' A fireplace is so easy to put in these days. You can get a gas one for a few hundred dollars.

© 2007/HGTV

PRESSING THE FRESH: On an upcoming episode of HGTV's "Property Virgins," host Sandra Rinomato helps first-time house hunters Tracy and Josh look for a place.

They buy based on emotion. They'll walk into a place that's been decorated beautifully and overlook a property that may not look as pretty right now, but with some paint and furniture, will look gorgeous and is in a better location and is easier to resell. They'll go for the first one as opposed to the second one, nine times out of 10.

When you're buying your first home, it's the most money you've spent in your life. You don't want to open the door and feel deflated. The point is the furniture doesn't come with the house. When you move in, you move in your ratty couch from Grandma's cottage that you took to college with you.

How important is it to consider who your neighbors will be?

They're pretty important, because it's all part of your experience. What I recommend to people when I send them a listing of a place that looks interesting, is they should do a drive-by. They should go to the neighborhood if they're not familiar with it. They should talk to people who are mowing the lawn or walking their dogs because people love to talk about their houses. You will gain a wealth of information from a five-minute chat with someone. What's going on in the neighborhood? Is there a big turnover? Is it the type of place you want to be? You take a drive-by at different times of day and see who lives there. Does it look safe? Do they look kind of seedy? Are there a lot of kids? Do you want an area with a lot of kids? Or is it a lot of old people, and you want an area with a lot of young families?

> "It's the most money you've spent in your life. You don't want to open the door and feel deflated."
>
> **SANDRA RINOMATO**, HGTV HOST

What about home inspection?

[It's] hugely important, especially for a first-time buyer. They spend three hours with the home inspector as they go through the house. They're not only looking for problems, explaining how the problem arose and what to do to fix it, but they're also giving you preventative maintenance tips. You get a sense of security. You might get talked out of a house that needs more mechanical work than you were anticipating. Or you may just gain a great education about how to take care of this house. For 400 bucks, you really should do it.

Any other advice?

Get your ducks in a row before you start looking. That means handling the financial side of it and being prepared to move quickly. In a lot of markets across the U.S. and Canada, you can't dillydally. Once you're ready to go with it, you don't have time to get that blemish taken off your credit history. Do all that way before you start looking.

People should check their credit every year anyway. Or even twice a year, because sometimes the wrong information gets posted on your credit, or there's a lot of identity theft and you have to make sure you're not a victim. When you are ready to buy a house, you might have six months of hard work ahead of you just cleaning up your record. Don't just say, "Oh, no, I'll be fine. I know I'm golden financially." Really take a good hard look at it. Get your mortgage consultant working for you and telling you, "OK, right now you can get this much, but if we take these steps, we can get that much mortgage."

Definitely know that information before you go out, otherwise it's heartache. Heartache for you, because you can't get your dream home, you've spent all that time looking, and now you've made this huge decision, which takes a lot of effort out of you, and you can't get financing. Your Realtor's worked hard for nothing — no paycheck — and the seller who thought they had sold their house, all of the sudden gets the bad news that the buyer didn't get financing. It's an emotional roller coaster for everyone.

What does it feel like when you land someone a house?

When you have solved someone's real estate problems and they're happy, that makes it worthwhile. Watching a first-time buyer getting a fabulous place, at a fabulous price, where they're going to have a fabulous life, is like watching your kid hit a home run.

KRIS CORONADO (EXPRESS)

He's Building a Blog House

In his new pad and online, New York's Nick Olsen distills a new kind of hip

HELAYNE SEIDMAN/TWP

TROPHY LIFE: With his eyes peeled for great finds, New Yorker Nick Olsen, a design blogger for Domino, horns in on wall decor at Billy's Antiques & Props in the Bowery.

Early this month, Nick Olsen moved into a new studio apartment in midtown Manhattan that looks, he says charitably, like a "crack den." It has one window, cheap wooden cabinets and a fridge looming alone along the kitchen wall. With moving boxes still unpacked, he says he can already picture the whole place finished — sleek and serene — and has set about transforming it.

If anyone can do it, he can.

Those who reside in the realm of the young and style-obsessed know of Olsen as something of a wunderkind: a walking, talking, blogging personification of urbane cool. He's a protege of New York status designer Miles Redd, had his previous apartment featured on the cover of Domino magazine and writes a buzz-generating blog for the shelter mag.

Oh, yeah. And he's 25 years old.

In addition to his early accomplishments, Olsen possesses that elusive, enviable quality called "eye" or "knack" or perhaps "flair": an innate sense of style so many of us aspire to and so few seem blessed with. It's the way some people knot a scarf, arrange flowers, throw a party or pick an unexpectedly perfect wall color. They never seem to wonder, "Do I know what I'm doing here?" Somehow, they just know they know.

The rest of us stand back and admire — through gritted teeth — the inborn gifts of such people. Then we go home and attempt a few hackneyed tricks of our own: slip-covering the couch, perhaps, or trying the dining room table next to the fireplace in the living room. We want the eye, the flair; but wanting isn't the same thing as having, is it?

Olsen acknowledges that much of his approach to design comes down to instinct. A gut reaction. But part is pure fearlessness: a passionate interest and willingness to take chances. Nothing is irrevocable, he says; anything is fair game. An ugly fridge in a rental apartment? Olsen wallpapered his.

HELAYNE SEIDMAN/WASHINGTON POST

PAINT IT BLACK: A master of cheap-chic makeovers, Nick Olsen suggests luxe DIY projects like spray-painting a starfish to make it look like a precious object.

> "I want really high style, right? But I'm not kidding myself: That costs a lot of money."
>
> **NICK OLSEN**, DESIGN BLOGGER

"I wish people would think of decorating their home in the same way they think about fashion, because they're willing to take more chances with that," he says. "Because decorating is a lot of troubleshooting."

Such confidence didn't come overnight.

Growing up in Pensacola, Fla., Olsen was doodling dream houses at the age of 6. By 10, he was enrolled in formal art classes. In high school, while classmates were deep into the melodrama unfolding on "Beverly Hills, 90210," Olsen was out searching for the perfect sofa for his bedroom and unearthed it at a church-run thrift store: a 1950s castoff long past its prime. Looking past the stained orange damask upholstery to the classic tufted back, oversize cushions and Baroque frame, he snapped it up for $40.

"I ran home and told my dad I'd just bought a couch and needed him to pick it up." His father obliged, and Olsen painted the frame and recovered the sofa himself, replacing the orange damask with white linen. That, he now realizes, was a

CONTINUED ON E11

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HELAYNE SEIDMAN/TWP

CURIOSITY SHOP: Billy's Antiques & Props sells sculptures, appliances and more.

In Style, Online

CONTINUED FROM E9

pivotal event.

A few reupholstering jobs later and with a degree in architecture from Columbia University, Olsen saw a spread in W magazine about Redd, a high-profile designer for moneyed clients and chic hot spots who had recently been named creative director of Oscar de la Renta's home line.

"It made such an impression on me, like nothing before or since," Olsen says. "And I felt that we were a lot alike." So — because there's innate design talent, and then there's hopeful New Yorky networking — he wrote Redd a letter. Serendipitously, Redd's assistant had given notice just days before, so Olsen was asked to come in for an interview. A week later he had landed the job of his dreams.

Working with Redd, Olsen learned and grew creatively. Experimenting with that first apartment, he knew he couldn't afford the high-end pieces chosen by the clients he was working for, but he could seek out the look from thrift shops and fabric stores and do it himself.

Even before moving in, he knew he wanted assertively vivid wall color, and he picked out a vibrant olive-green paint. He was determined to reclaim quirky flea-market finds, such as the faux-bamboo side table, enameled starfish and '70s-era ashtrays he'd been collecting for a decade.

Among Nick Olsen's decor scores: neo-Baroque furniture and wild accessories.

"My whole inspiration for the apartment was a cartoony version of Miles's place," Olsen says. "I wanted it to have a sense of humor; to be whimsical, yet stylish."

CONTINUED ON E12

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HELAYNE SEIDMAN/TWP

TIME TO REFLECT? Design wunderkind Nick Olsen tries to stay ahead of the curve.

In Style, Online

CONTINUED FROM E11

There was plenty of trial and error, but when Redd saw the place at Olsen's housewarming party, he was impressed enough to mention it to Deborah Needleman, editor in chief of Domino. Magazine scouts showed up two days later, and the apartment landed on the November '06 cover, prominently featuring that career-sparking couch, now reinvented in blue velvet.

Needleman and her staff were so taken with Olsen that they thought of him for a "Deal Hunter" blog they had in the works, which launched in January.

"We knew we wanted someone who could do this 'Domino on a dime' thing, and it was important to me to find someone who knew how to translate design," Needleman says. "You can feel good about being on a budget, because it comes from a refined sensibility."

That sensibility is critical when working with Redd's million-dollar clients. It also comes in handy when designing on the cheap. "I want really high style, right?" Olsen says. "But I'm not kidding myself: That costs a lot of money, and I don't have it. So how do I get it, or at least fake it?"

Fake-it-till-you-make-it tactics are the backbone of Olsen's blog for Domino (Dominomag.com), where he suggests framing old science magazine covers as art; creating a bookshelf or nesting tables from wooden fruit crates; transforming an Ikea credenza by sanding and painting it with high-gloss paint or covering it with contact paper that looks like faux marble or stainless steel; knocking off your favorite abstract painting by making one with a store-bought canvas and tubes of paint; and making your own ikat fabric by saturating ordinary broadcloth cotton with a paint-covered sponge.

"Nick's ideas truly are inspiring," Needleman says. "He's someone who can open your eyes to the possibilities hiding in a common thing."

> "Nick's ideas are inspiring. He's someone who can open your eyes."
>
> **DEBORAH NEEDLEMAN**, DOMINO

Now he's putting those ideas to use in his new place, which he says will be more simple and grown-up. "I was home in August, and I found these two poppy-red Chinese lamps with mustard-yellow accents, and they're setting the tone," he says. "I want a peaceful blue fabric for the walls with Kelly green accents."

Last week, while shopping at Billy's Antiques & Props in the Bowery, he stumbled upon an oversize stone hand sculpture from the 1930s that he said would go perfectly with his new look.

And the sofa? He's thinking about recovering it. Again. Though this time, he won't do it himself. "Some things," he says, "should be left to the professionals."

CORY OHLENDORF (THE WASHINGTON POST)

LOIS RAIMONDO/TWP

Property taxes at Brookland's Colonel Brooks Tavern have skyrocketed recently.

Pinched by Prosperity

Small businesses see their taxes climb after D.C.'s real estate boom

In a storefront that once housed his great-grandfather's hardware store, Paul Ruppert and his mother, Molly, manage an art gallery, theater and music hall. Theirs is an unexpected pocket of bohemia in a District neighborhood defined by brick-faced walk-ups and the gray behemoth that is the Washington Convention Center.

After 15 years, the Rupperts are closing their music venue and a cafe, and they may shut the rest by year's end. The reason: an expected fivefold increase, from $52,000 to $269,000, in the 2008 property tax bill for the enclave's three buildings and an adjoining parking lot.

That increase, they say, does not allow for rockers and abstract painters, not to mention a reasonably priced glass of merlot.

"There has to be another use to pay the taxes," said Paul Ruppert, whose great-grandfather moved to Seventh Street NW 117 years ago. "It'll be impossible to continue to operate."

Washington's retail corridors have long been populated by homegrown businesses — quirky taverns and bookstores, groceries and eateries that are touchstones of neighborhood life.

Yet, as development surged across the city in recent years, the value of commercial properties jumped as much as 40 percent in some neighborhoods, and some merchants fear that they will be driven out by rising taxes and competition from national chains.

"It's the downside of prosperity," said D.C. Council member Jack Evans, D-Ward 2. At risk, he said, is "the fabric of our city and losing what makes us different than Pentagon City. You're losing your local businesses that are unique to Washington and replacing them with Starbucks and the Gap and chain

CONTINUED ON E14

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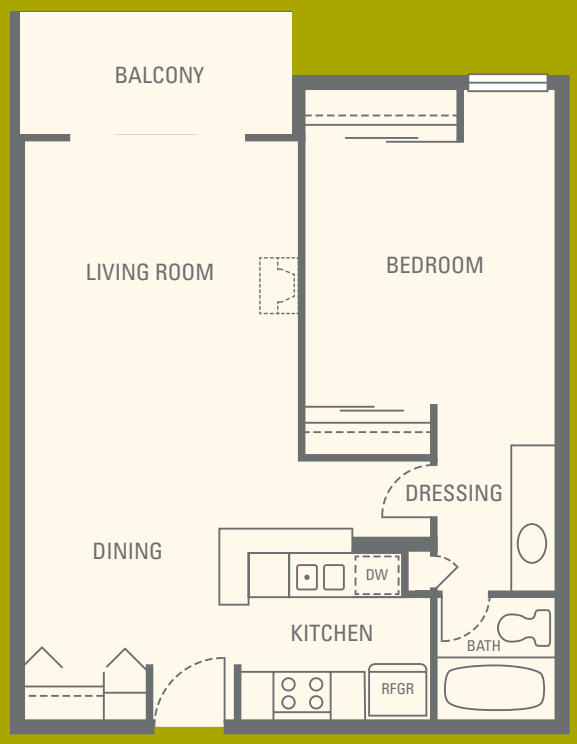

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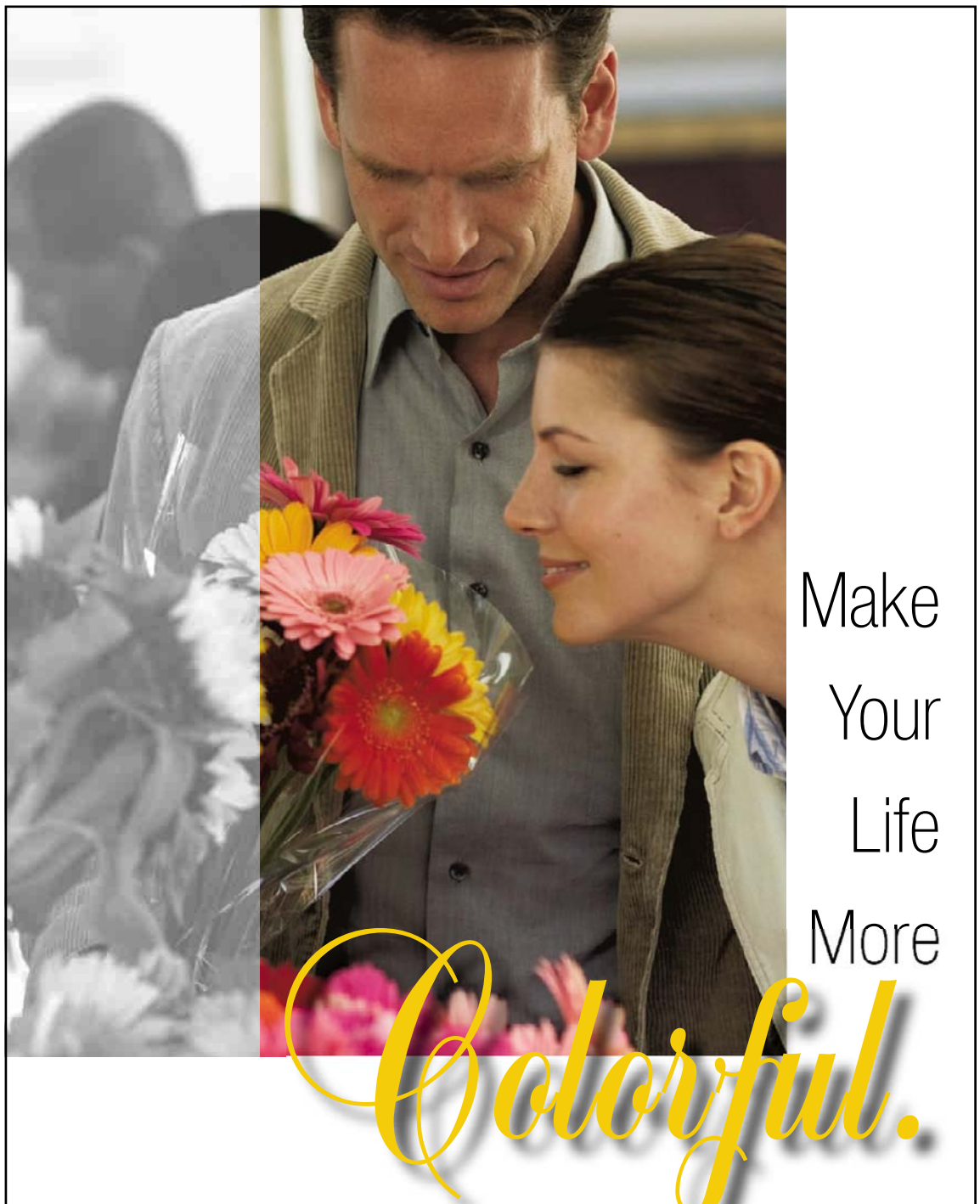

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CONTINUED FROM E13

restaurants."

The council has set aside $11 million in one-time relief for 11,000 small businesses that gross up to $500,000 per year, but officials acknowledge that the funding is no solution. "We need to come up with some tools to help people," said Erik A. Moses, director of the Department of Small and Local Business Development.

No wave of small-business closings and relocations has been attributed to the jump in assessments, District officials said. But the complaints of merchants bemoaning steep increases can be heard from Georgetown to Capitol Hill.

In Brookland, Colonel Brooks' Tavern, which opened in 1980, is a place where college students drink beer in a room adorned with framed photos of the 19th-century lawyer and landowner for whom the bar and neighborhood are named. Jim Stiegman, the owner, began assembling the 35,000-square-foot parcel in 1978. His assessment rose incrementally until 2003, when developers discovered Brookland.

The District that year valued his property at $485,000, resulting in a tax bill of about $9,000. Next year, the assessment is to rise to $2.3 million and the bill to more than $42,000. The increase is forcing him to contemplate selling, closing or redeveloping his property.

Adele Robey and her husband, Bruce, opened the H Street Playhouse in 2004 when the corridor was lined with vacant properties. Since then, clubs and restaurants have moved in. In 2006, after the Robeys renovated, the District valued the theater at $514,000, and the assessment will top $1 million next year. Their tax payments, which also doubled since 2006, will exceed $19,000 in 2008. "I feel betrayed by the District," Adele Robey said. She and her husband are considering adding to the theater to build condo apartments.

For decades, developers gravi

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tated to the suburbs as residents migrated from crime-plagued cities. But in the 1990s, as crime rates declined and land in outlying areas was developed, investors started returning, triggering construction, driving up land prices and attracting retailers that had gravitated to the suburbs. In Washington, commercial property values rose nearly 28 percent from 2006 to 2007. The average increase for 2008 is 21 percent.

The jump has been more dramatic in some neighborhoods, including Columbia Heights — where the increase was nearly 50 percent from 2006 to 2007 — and Trinidad, where it was 42 percent. The edges of Capitol Hill experienced a surge of 77 percent in that period.

Merchants do not dispute that their properties are more valuable. But they say they cannot afford the pace of the increases. The District, they say, should cap how much their payments can grow annually, as is the case with residential properties, which have a 10 percent ceiling.

Evans, chairman of the council Committee on Finance and Revenue, said he proposed a commercial property tax cap but got little support from his colleagues, who were worried about the revenue loss. The cap would cost as much as $240 million, according to an analysis by District officials. The council is working out how to dole out the $11 million in tax relief funds.

Many property owners seek relief by appealing the District's assessment, a strategy that worked for Jeremiah Cohen, owner of the Tabard Inn, who won a reduction and saved $25,000 in taxes.

But not everyone is successful. The Rupperts lost an appeal of the District's finding that their properties had increased in value from $2.8 million to $14.5 million. The family recognizes that its fortune is born of Henry Ruppert's decision in 1890 to open a hardware store at 1021 Seventh St., then buy two neighboring properties. The store was in business until 1986, after which the Rupperts opened the theater/gallery, known as the Warehouse. The family could keep the properties and find tenants willing to pay the rents. But Paul Ruppert said he prefers to sell rather than lease the space to a national chain. "If the Rupperts move, it will be sad," he said. "But cities change."

PAUL SCHWARTZMAN (THE WASHINGTON POST)

CRAIG HERNDON/TWP

REACH FOR THE BEACH: With memories of summer's surf and sand coursing through their heads, buyers often dip into the real-estate market in places like Rehoboth.

The Season to Shore Up

Fall is a popular (and cheap) time to buy property near the ocean

Kathy Lewis didn't know whether it was the right time to buy a beach house, just that it was the right time for her.

Lewis, a teacher who lives in Glen Burnie, started looking for a place in Delaware this summer. She made an offer on a condo in Rehoboth Beach in mid-September, with closing scheduled for early November.

Beach memories are still fresh this time of year, leaving many vacationers wondering whether now is the time to dip their toes in the waters. Even more than regular residential real estate, the vacation-home market on the East Coast is seasonal, with most buyers rushing to the settlement table in the spring and, less frequently, in the fall. But as Lewis discovered, running counter to the spring cycle can be advantageous to buyers, even as it creates its own hassles.

Lewis estimated that the price she negotiated, $188,000, is about $35,000 less than she would have paid for a similar condo in April.

Her patience was also probably a factor. "I didn't feel any pressure," Lewis said. "I could have waited, easily."

Sales are seasonal in other popular vacation destinations, too. For example, sales in the Outer Banks over the past 12 months peaked in March, according to Daniel Sutherland, a spokesman for the Outer Banks Association of Realtors. Sales in Sussex County, which includes the Delaware beaches, peaked in May this year, according to Rick Allamong, an agent with Coldwell Banker in the Bethany Beach area.

As the September numbers come in, he said, he expects to see another, smaller spike.

LINDA DAVIDSON/TWP

Dewey Beach, known for quaint cottages, may soon get more high-rise condos.

Dan Martier, an agent with Coldwell Banker Seaside Realty in Kitty Hawk, N.C., said that for people who intend to rent the place out most of the season, timing is very important. Closing has to happen in time to get things lined up for the next vacation season, when the vast majority of rents are collected.

Those renters make buying in the height of summer difficult, Martier said. "Most of the houses are occupied. It's hard to even look at it unless it's turnover day." But that doesn't mean it can't happen, he said. "We just have to get in there when the maid is in there."

In the fall, he sees a lot of people returning to get a closer look at places that caught their attention over the summer. And as the weather turns cooler, those buyers can negotiate a lower price, Martier said. "Rents are in, sellers are looking at all the maintenance they're going to have to do over winter." This is also generally the period of the biggest inventory, he said.

The downside to buying in the fall is that you'll wait months for the property to generate income, unlike those spring buyers who get cash flow right away, Martier said.

But that doesn't matter to everyone. Martier said the buyers he's seeing now are more often buying for their personal use.

Lewis is one of those personal users. Her job means she has summers off, and she plans to make full use of her Rehoboth condo each season. As she approaches retirement, she may even make it her principal home. "That was certainly in the back of my mind," she said.

If you decide to buck the usual seasonal trends, keep in mind that a contrarian strategy has both advantages and disadvantages. On the one hand, the pool of homes for sale is generally smaller — most people don't want to bother with the hassle. But those sellers who have their places on the market in off-times are usually very motivated, especially those whose homes are still up for sale come Christmas.

"Nobody shops in the dead of winter," said Martin West, a real estate agent with Ocean Atlantic Agency in Rehoboth Beach, who is working with Lewis. "People don't really think about it until it gets warmer." MARY ELLEN SLAYTER (THE WASHINGTON POST)

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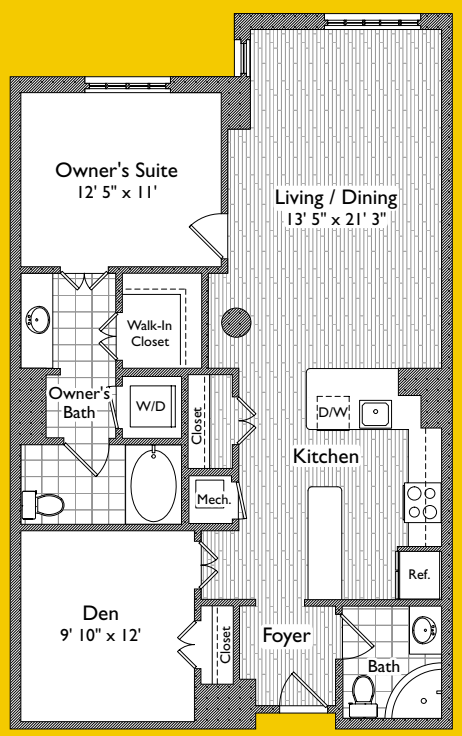

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